WEEK OF April 27, 2009

ECCC splits final series

East Central Community College's baseball team split its season-ending doubleheader with Pearl River Community College Saturday in Poplarville, winning 8-7 in the opener and falling 13-9 in the second contest.

The Diamond Warriors finished 19-28 overall and 8-16 in the MACJC South Division.

Jack Edmondson of Nanih Waiya and Ernie Triplett of Louisville had two hits each to lead the EC offense. Triplett also had two RBIs.

Both ZeEricka Hall and Quin Stokes of Carthage registered singles in the game with Hall driving in a run.

EC scored two runs in the second, four in the fourth and tallied single runs in the fifth and seventh innings.

Pearl River scored four runs in the fourth, two in the sixth and one in the seventh.

Steven Barnes of Covington, La., was the winning pitcher. Barnes fanned five batters and walked two during five innings of work. Austin Buchanan of Neshoba Central hurled the final two innings and fanned two batters.

In the second game, EC carried a 9-5 lead into the seventh, when the Wildcats erupted for eight runs including a grand slam by Seth Edwards which snapped a 9-9 tie.

Edmondson blasted a triple and two singles, and Eichelberger added a double, single and had two RBIs to lead EC hitters. Cheek, May and Ming had singles each.

Tyler Nicholson of Neshoba Central took the loss on the mound.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON ✓

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NESHOBA DEMOCRAT ✓

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WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL ✓

CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF June 15, 2009

MLB calls two ECCC players

from combined reports

A pair of East Central Community College Warriors were picked in last week's Major League Baseball Draft.

Daniel Eichelberger of Louisville was selected by the Los Angeles Angels in the 20th round. He was the No. 621 overall pick.

A sophomore outfielder, Eichelberger batted .343 in 2009 with 13 doubles, two triples, and a team-high 10 home runs and 49 RBIs. He also stole 20 bases and scored 47 runs.

"I'm just overjoyed," said the Louisville High School standout. "So many people have called to congratulate me and told me to enjoy the moment. I'm just trying to stay humble while also being very excited. Hopefully, I can take advantage of this opportunity and make it all the way."

ZeErika Hall of Carthage was taken by the New York Mets as the No. 884 pick.

Hall led the Warriors at the plate with a .369 average in 2009. He also had a team-high 21 doubles with four triples and 22 stolen bases. Hall drove in 34 runs. He scored a team-best 48 runs.

Regarding his opportunity to play professional baseball, Hall said, "It feels great…I've always dreamed about this moment…and to sign with my favorite team, the Mets, makes this even more special."

Hall played for former ECCC Warrior David Luke at Carthage High School.

ECCC head baseball coach Neal Holliman said Eichelberger and Hall are a "joy to be around…both are very well mannered. I thoroughly enjoyed coaching both of them."

Eichelberger and Hall were among several Diamond Warriors who signed national letters of intent with Mississippi Valley State University. Pending negations, both are expected to sign professional contracts within a few days.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

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NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

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WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF June 15, 2009

ECCC Diamond Warriors selected in major league baseball draft

From press reports

"My dream has come true," commented former East Central Community College baseball player Daniel Eichelberger following his selection in the 20th round on Day Two of the 2009 Major League Baseball First-Year Player Draft held Wednesday, June 10.

Eichelberger, a 6', 175-pound centerfielder, was chosen by the Los Angeles Angels. He received the news about his selection while in Wyoming, where he is participating in Mountain Collegiate Baseball League as a member of the Laramie Colts.

"I'm just overjoyed," said the Louisville High School standout via a cell phone interview. "So many people have called to congratulate me and told me to enjoy the moment. I'm just trying to stay humble while also being very excited. Hopefully I can take advantage of this opportunity and make it all the way."

He will obviously hope to follow the success of former ECCC Diamond Warrior and fellow Louisville product Marcus Thames of the Detroit Tigers. Holliman said the two communicate on a regular basis.

Eichelberger batted .343 for the Diamond Warriors in 2009 and led the team in home runs with 10 and RBIs with 49. He also pounded 13 doubles and scored 47 runs. Eichelberger played just one year at ECCC, having transferred from Delta State University.

Diamond Warrior head coach Neal Holliman said Eichelberger has a "different" approach to playing baseball as compared to a approach," Holliman said. "Daniel is not only preparing for tomorrow's game, but he's also preparing to play professional baseball. A lot of kids say they want to play pro ball, but he prepared himself for it. He is a no-nonsense kind of person and is very disciplined." Eichelberger's coach at Louisville was Charlie Smith, whose son Drew serves as a student assistant coach for Coach Holliman.

Also drafted is former Diamond Warrior ZeErika Hall of Carthage, who was selected nine rounds later by the New York Mets. Hall, a 6', 175-pound outfielder, batted .369 with 34 RBIs. He led the team in doubles with 21 and stolen bases with 22. He also had four triples and scored a team-best 48 runs. Hall is a former standout at Carthage High School where he played for former Diamond Warrior David Luke.

Regarding his opportunity to play professional baseball, Hall replied in a cell phone interview, "It feels great...I've always dreamed about this moment...and to sign with my favorite team, the Mets, makes this even more special."

Hall said he received the news while in Alabama, where he plays for the East Alabama Big Train, a member of the Great South Summer Baseball League. The public address announcer at the team's game Wednesday (June 10) with the Windward Braves recognized Hall for being drafted. Hall said he received congratulations from team members and fans following the announcement, which "was quite a thrill."

Eichelberger

he came to East Central, but soon "grew up, matured and became serious about maximizing his potential as a community college baseball player, which became evident when he was drafted."

Holliman said Eichelberger and Hall are a "joy to be around...both are very well mannered. I thoroughly enjoyed coaching both of them."

Eichelberger and Hall were among several Diamond Warriors who signed national letters of intent with Mississippi Valley State University. Pending negations, both are expected to sign professional contracts within a few days.

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NEWTON COUNTY APPEAL _____

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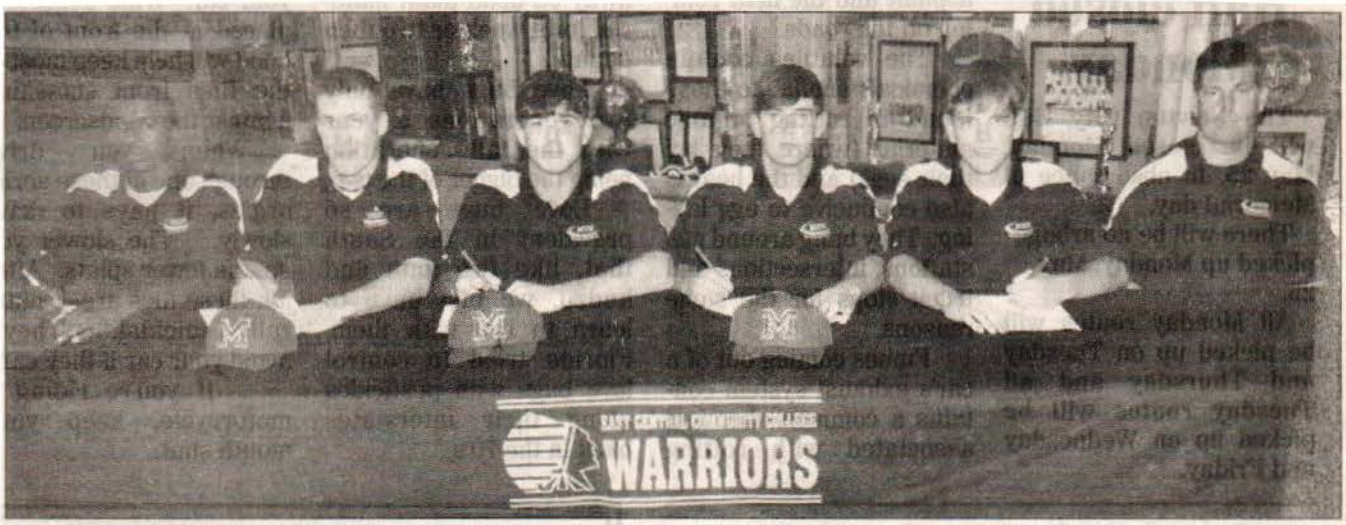
WEEK OF May 18, 2009



Continuing Their Careers

Continuing their baseball careers on the university level are the above East Central Community College Diamond Warriors who signed national letters of intent during a ceremony held recently on the Decatur campus. Signing with Mississippi Valley State University are (from left) outfielder Daniel Eichelberger of Louisville, pitcher Steven Barnes of Covington (La.) High School, pitcher Eric Dowell of Carthage, and Jack Edmonson of Nanih Waiya, who will serve as a student assistant coach. Also shown is pitcher Timothy Maloney, a product of Northeast Lauderdale High School, who signed with Delta State University. At right is Neal Holliman, ECCC head baseball coach.

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WEEK OF May 18, 2009

HORNETS SIGN SCHOLARSHIPS

THE TIMES/CHRIS ALLEN BAKER

Two senior members of the Lake High School baseball team signed scholarships recently to continue playing baseball on the collegiate level. Colton Mitchell, seated second from left, will play for the East Central Community College Warriors. Dwayne Gammage Jr., seated second from right, received a baseball scholarship with his appointment to the U.S. Naval Academy to continue his sports career. Participating in the signing ceremony were, from left seated, Darlene Mitchell, Colton Mitchell, Dwayne Gammage Jr., and Dianne Gammage. Standing from left: Assistant Hornets Baseball Coach Jake Nester, Howard Mitchell, Dwayne Gammage Sr., and Hornets Head Baseball Coach Brian Goodman.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

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WEEK OF May 18, 2009

Signs to play baseball at EC

Neshoba Central seniors, Joel McKee and Donnie Tabb, recently signed letters of intent to continue their baseball careers at East Central Community College in Decatur. Joel is the son of Todd and Patti McKee. Donnie is the son of Andreal and Barbara Tabb. Seated from left is ECCC head coach Neal Holliman, Donnie Tabb, Joel McKee, and assistant coach Michael Avalon. Standing from left is ECCC assistant coach Roberto Marinez, Andreal Tabb, Barbara Tabb, Patti McKee, Todd McKee and assistant coach Drew Smith.

APPEARED IN:

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MERIDIAN STAR _____

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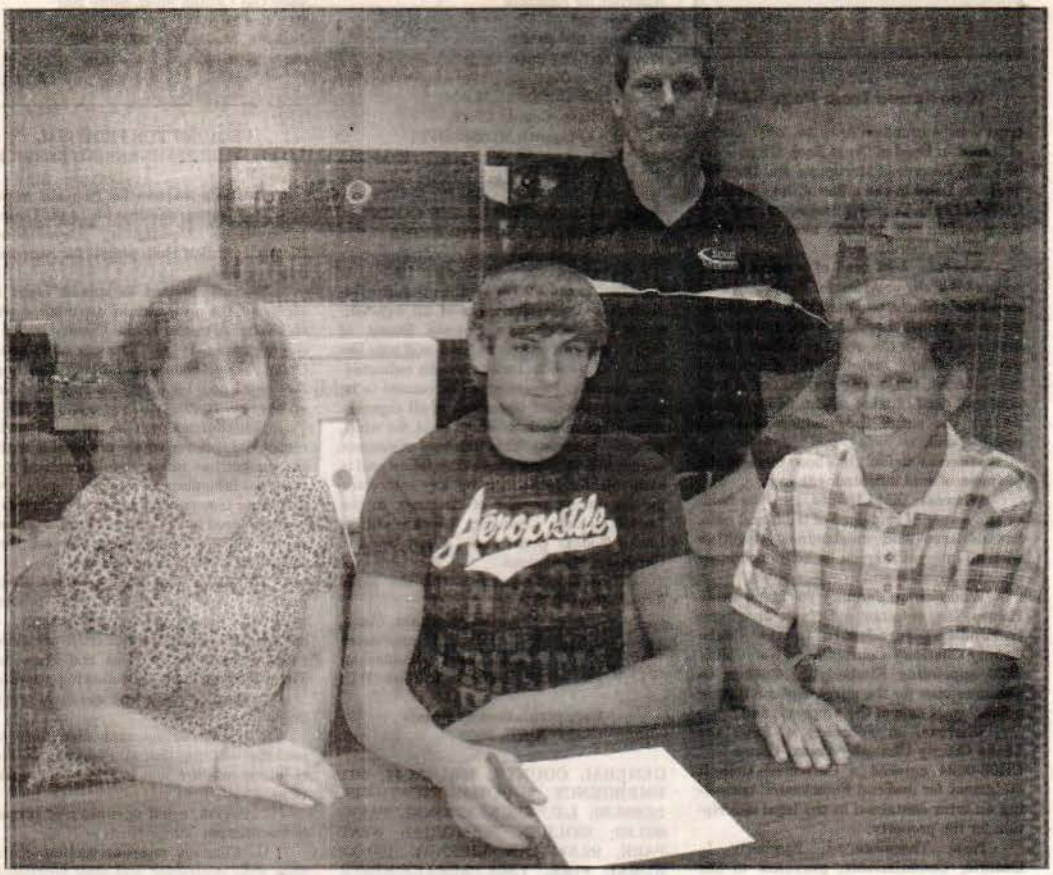
WEEK OF May 18, 2009



Neal signs with ECCC

Tyler Neal, seated, center, a 2009 graduate of Edinburg High School, recently accepted a scholarship offer from East Central Community College to continue his baseball career as a Warrior. He was joined for his signing by his parents, Ann and Eddie Neal, as well as ECCC head coach Neal Holliman.

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WEEK OF May 18, 2009

Receive ECCC Baseball Awards

These East Central Community College baseball players received honors at the annual Spring Sports Awards Banquet held on the Decatur campus. Seated from left are Timothy Maloney, a product of Northeast Lauderdale High School, scholar athlete award and most valuable pitcher; outfielder Daniel Eichelberger of Louisville, most valuable player and first team MACJC All-State; and utility player Jeremy May of Newton County, most valuable defensive player and second team MACJC All-State. Standing from left are infielder Jack Edmonson of Nanih Waiya, Warrior Award; and outfielder Idael Pestana of Morton, most improved player. Also receiving post-season honors is outfielder ZeEricka Hall of Carthage, first team MACJC All-State. ECCC President Dr. Phil A. Sutphin and Diamond Warrior head coach Neal Holliman presented awards. (EC Photo)

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WEEK OF April 27, 2009

Sophmores honored

Sophomore Diamond Warriors Honored

Special recognition was given to sophomore members of East Central Community College's baseball team prior to doubleheader action with Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College Wednesday, April 16 at the Clark/Gay Baseball Complex on the Decatur campus. Honorees, who are shown with family members for the tribute, include (kneeling from left) pitcher Steven Barnes (16) of Covington, La.; outfielder Allen Cheek (2), Carrollton; outfielder Clint Coleman (13), Louisville; pitcher Eric Dowell (25), Carthage; infielder Jack Edmondson (4) and outfielder Daniel Eichelberger (3), both of Louisville; pitcher Lance Gibson (11), Toxey, Ala.; outfielder ZeEricka Hall (7), Carthage; first baseman Callop Hampton (22), Magee; pitcher Timothy Maloney (14), Meridian; catcher/infielder Kylie Ming (5), Louisville; and pitcher Tyler Nicolson (34), Philadelphia. The Diamond Warriors are led by head coach Neal Holliman and assistants Michael Avalon and Roberto Martinez. (EC Photo)

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WEEK OF 4/20/09

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ECCC PHOTO

WARRIOR CONTINUING CAREER

East Central Community College sophomore pitcher Lance Gibson (left) of Toxey, Ala., is shown signing a national letter-of-intent to continue his baseball career at the University of Alabama-Huntsville. Gibson, a 5-10, 180-pound right-hander, has been a "mainstay" in the pitching rotation for the Diamond Warriors, according to coach Neal Holliman (right). Holliman said Gibson "has done a good job for us, floating as a conference starter or closer, depending on what we need that day." Holliman added, "Lance will be a great addition to Alabama-Huntsville as they build a program to compete for the Gulf South Conference championship."

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WEEK OF 4/16/09

Juco Roundup

East Central sweeps Hinds

from staff reports

A bases-loaded walk in the bottom of the seventh inning gave East Central Community College a doubleheader sweep of visiting Hinds Community College.

The Lady Warriors took the opener 9-0 before edging the Lady Eagles 6-5 in the nightcap.

After Hinds rallied to knot the second game with five runs in the top of the seventh, East Central answered with the game-winner in the bottom of the frame. Leah Dennis walked with the bases loaded for the game-winning RBI.

Codee Russell allowed 10 hits in improving to 2-2.

The Lady Warriors scored in each of the first five innings in winning the first game of Saturday's doubleheader.

Amber Smith improved to 9-9 by allowing just six hits, while striking out two.

ECCC (19-19) visits Pearl River for a doubleheader starting at 4 p.m. Monday.

—Jamie Wachter

East Mississippi 11-2
Holmes 2-4

Regan Shows drove in nine runs and Courtney Nunn struck out a dozen Holmes batters to lead visiting East Mississippi to a nine-run victory in the opening game of a Saturday softball doubleheader split.

The Lady Lions struck for five runs in the first inning of the opener, as Shows capped the frame with a two-out grand slam.

Nunn only allowed two hits and picked up her ninth victory of the season.

In the nightcap, Kandi Ray's three-run home run in the sixth off Nunn proved to be the difference in the 4-2 Holmes decision.

The Lady Lions (18-22, 11-9 MACJC North Division) will close out their home slate with a tripleheader Monday against Mississippi Delta.

—from school reports

JUCO BASEBALL
Itawamba 10-11
East Mississippi 0-1

With the run-rule sweep of the visiting Lions, Itawamba clinched its sixth North Division regular-season title in the last seven seasons.

In the opener, a two-run home run by starting pitcher Josh Chism ignited a seven-run second inning by ICC. The Indians sent a dozen batters to the plate in the second.

In the nightcap, ICC jumped on East Mississippi starter Corey Luke for four first-inning runs, keyed by a three-run home run by Justin Bryant.

EMCC (9-35, 4-15 MACJC North Division) hosts Holmes in a doubleheader Tuesday.

—from school reports

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PAULA MERRITT/THE MERIDIAN STAR

LAYING OUT

East Central Commnity College's Daniel Eichelberger lays out to attempt a catch on a ball hit to shallow center field Wednesday against Pearl River Community College.

Wildcats sweep Warriors

from staff reports

The East Central Community College baseball team couldn't hang on to an early lead in the opener of a doubleheader Wednesday, falling to Pearl River 11-9. The Wildcats then shut down the Warriors 8-1 in the nightcap.

ECCC jumped on top of the visiting Wildcats, leading 9-2 after three innings in the first game. However, Pearl River rallied for two runs in the fourth, one in the fifth, two in the sixth and four in the seventh to stun the Warriors. Drew Wilson suffered the loss for East Central.

Leading the Warriors offensively was Daniel Eichelberger, who homered. Tyler Davis added two hits and Kylie Ming went 1-for-3.

The offensive continued to sputter in the nightcap, as the Warriors managed just two hits — one each from ZeEricka Hall and Eichelberger.

Pearl River scored two in the first, two in the fourth and then put the game away with four in the sixth. East Central scored its lone run in the sixth, as Lance Gibson took the loss.

The Warriors (16-20) host Southwest on Saturday.

PAULA MERRITT/THE MERIDIAN STAR

SLIDING IN

East Central Community College's Ernie Triplett slides in safe at third against Pearl River Community College's Ashley Graeter after tagging up on a fly ball.

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WEEK OF 3/30/07

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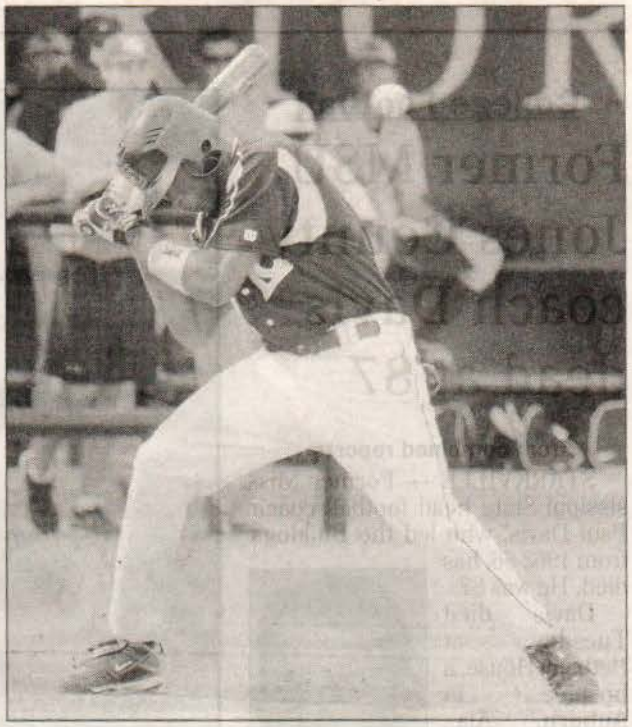

PAULA MERRITT/THE MERIDIAN STAR

WATCH OUT

East Central Community College's ZeEricka Hall ducks from a ball during their game against Pearl River Community College on Wednesday. *See story, page B3.*

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WEEK OF 3-30-09

Junior College Baseball

ECCC PHOTO

WARRIOR SIGNEE

Newton High School baseball standout Kevin Harris (seated center) is shown signing a national letter-of-intent to continue his athletic career at East Central Community College in Decatur. Harris, a 5-7, 160-pound middle infielder, is a three-time All-District selection, who also received most valuable player and best defensive player awards for the 2008 season. In addition, he received the Tiger Award and had the team's highest batting average (.400) in 2008. Shown with the new Diamond Warrior are his parents, Kenneth and Karen Harris of Newton, and (standing from left) Neal Holliman, ECCC baseball coach and Luke Gibbon, Newton baseball coach.

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WEEK OF 3/23/07

Leake County Diamond Warriors

Three former Carthage Tigers are continuing their careers with the East Central Community College Warriors this spring. They are, from left, catcher/outfielder/first baseman Quin Stokes, right-handed pitcher Eric Dowell and outfielder ZeEricka Hall.

ECCC netters fall to Jones County in match sweep

East Central Community College's tennis squads wrapped up competition prior to spring break by falling to Jones County Junior College March 12 on the Decatur campus.

The Warriors fell 6-3 to the Bobcats and dropped to 2-1 on the season, while the EC women were outscored 8-1 by the Lady Bobcats and remain winless in three matches.

Newton County High School products Jason Hancock of Decatur and Dee Walker of Hickory were the only Warriors to win in doubles, as they defeated Cody Kadoun and Ray Moore by an 8-2 margin.

Scooter Walker of Newton County and Matt Wade of Forest were clipped 9-7 by Casey Dykes and Tyler Shows, and Colton Amis of Newton County and Lurenzo Jones of Newton were edged by the same 9-7 score by Mitchell Smith and Eric Lynn.

Scooter Walker won his singles match with Dykes 7-5, 6-0, and Jones was also victorious as he cruised past Kadoun 6-1, 6-1.

Warriors defeated in

See MACJC on 6A

APPEARED IN
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WEEK OF 3/9/09

EC Diamond Warriors recognized for academic success

SPECIAL TO THE TIMES

DECATUR—East Central Community College's baseball team is being recognized for its success in the classroom after the Diamond Warriors posted a 3.13 grade point average for the 2008 fall semester.

The entire team qualifies for the fall semester honor roll, which recognizes students who achieve a 3.0 GPA or above.

Student assistant coach Drew Smith of Louisville led the squad with a perfect 4.0 average and qualified as a President's List scholar.

Neal Holliman, who is in his third year as head coach, said he was "very proud" of his team for "working hard" in the classroom and well as on the field.

"We have set a team goal for GPA every semester since we have been here and this past semester was no different," Holliman said. "We set a goal of 3.2 and finished with a 3.13. Even though we did not reach our goal, I am very proud of the discipline and hard work our players have displayed in the classroom. We have been able to achieve a 3.0 GPA or above five of the past six semesters and the one semester we missed the 3.0 mark, we finished with a 2.92. There is no doubt that the focus and discipline off the field will influence results on the field. We are looking forward to another great semester!"

The Diamond Warriors began the 2009 season by hosting Bevill-Fayette Community College on Feb. 4, in doubleheader action.

ECCC splits with Jones

DECATUR—A packed Brackeen-Wood gym witnessed two exciting games Monday night between MACJC South Division rivals East Central Community College and Jones County Junior College, each of which was decided on last-second shots.

In the women's contest, sophomore Mystee Dale drained a three-pointer with 9.1 seconds remaining, giving the Lady Warriors an 80-77 victory over the visiting Lady Bobcats.

The Warriors were on the wrong end of last-second heroics, however, as Brian Singleton of Jones drove through the lane for a buzzer-beating lay-in as time expired in overtime, and the division leading Bobcats came away with a stunning 98-96 decision.

Dale, a 5-8 guard and former Choctaw Central High School standout, pumped in 34 points for the EC women, who improved to 15-4 overall and 5-1 in division play, while Jones dropped to 13-5 and 4-2. The win also provided ECCC head coach Bill Smith with his 500th career victory.

In addition to Dale, other EC scorers were Hannah Lee of Leake Academy, 16; Rashima Jenkins, a product of Airline High School in Bossier City, La., 11; DeShouri Spates, of St. Thomas More High School in Lafayette, La., seven; Alisha McAfee of Northwest Rankin, five; Danielle Cole of Philadelphia, four; and Allison Phillips of Leake Academy, three. Jenkins led in rebounds with nine and Phillips had eight.

In the men's contest, Warrior Kenneth Barlow, a Scott Central product, was fouled with 6.8 seconds remaining and made one of two free throws for an 83-81 advantage.

Also scoring were Barlow, 15; Jordon, 12; Rico Jones of Forest, nine; and Rod Lofton of Forest, five.

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WEEK OF 1-19-09

Cohen to speak at EC's First-Pitch Dinner

from school reports

First-year Mississippi State University head baseball coach John Cohen will be the featured speaker for the third annual First-Pitch Dinner scheduled Saturday, Jan. 31, at East Central Community College in Decatur.

The program begins at 6:30 p.m. and will be held in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria. Tickets are $20 for adults and $10 for ages 12 and under.

Diamond Warrior head coach Neal Holliman, who is in his third year at the helm, invites the public to attend the annual preseason activity and meet the new Bulldog head mentor.

"We are extremely excited to have Coach Cohen visit our campus and serve as guest speaker for our annual First-Pitch Dinner," said Holliman, who led the Diamond Warriors to the 2007 state title in his first year. "This is always a great night for our fans, parents and players to come together and experience the excitement for the upcoming season. We usually have about 275 in attendance and we are sure this year will not be any different with such a noted speaker as Coach Cohen joining us for the evening."

Over the past five years, Cohen has become a "hot commodity" on the baseball speaking circuit and has shared his baseball knowledge with more than 100 groups over the past five years, according to the MSU Web site.

Cohen was selected to lead the MSU baseball program on June 7, 2008. He served the previous five years as head coach at the University of Kentucky.

John Cohen

Cohen, who was tapped the 2006 Southeastern Conference Coach of the Year and National Coach of the Year by the College Baseball Foundation and CollegeBaseballinsider.com, led Kentucky to a pair of NCAA Regional appearances in their last three seasons. He also led the Wildcats to their first-ever Southeastern Conference Championship in 2006.

During his five-year tenure at UK, Cohen's teams compiled a 175-113-1 (.607) record and posted a pair of 44-win campaigns — the most wins in school history.

The Tuscaloosa, Ala., native served as an assistant baseball coach at the University of Florida for two seasons prior to taking over the Kentucky program. He was head coach at Northwestern State University in Natchitoches, La., from 1998-2001 and led the Demons to two Southland Conference titles. He received conference coach of the year honors following the 1998 and 2001 championship season. He began his coaching career as an assistant at the University of Missouri, where he served from 1992-97.

Cohen was a standout for the MSU Bulldogs from 1988-90 under legendary coach Ron Polk. The Bulldogs advanced to an NCAA Regional during each of Cohen's three years on the squad, capped by a berth in the 1990 College World Series. In 1989, he helped lead the Diamond Dogs to the SEC Championship. Cohen finished his career ranked in the top 10 in several statistical categories at Mississippi State.

He received first-team All-SEC honors as a senior and was chosen by the Minnesota Twins in the 22nd round of the 1990 Major League draft. He spent two years in the Twins' minor league system prior to beginning his coaching career.

ECCC begins its 2009 baseball season by hosting Bevill-Fayette Community College in doubleheader action on February 4.

To purchase tickets for the dinner or for more information, contact ECCC Head Baseball Coach Neal Holliman, 601-635-2111 or call toll free, 1-877-462-3222, ext. 374. His e-mail address is nholliman@eccc.edu.

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WEEK OF 3-9-09

MSU Coach Cohen speaks at EC fast pitch banquet

SPECIAL TO THE TIMES

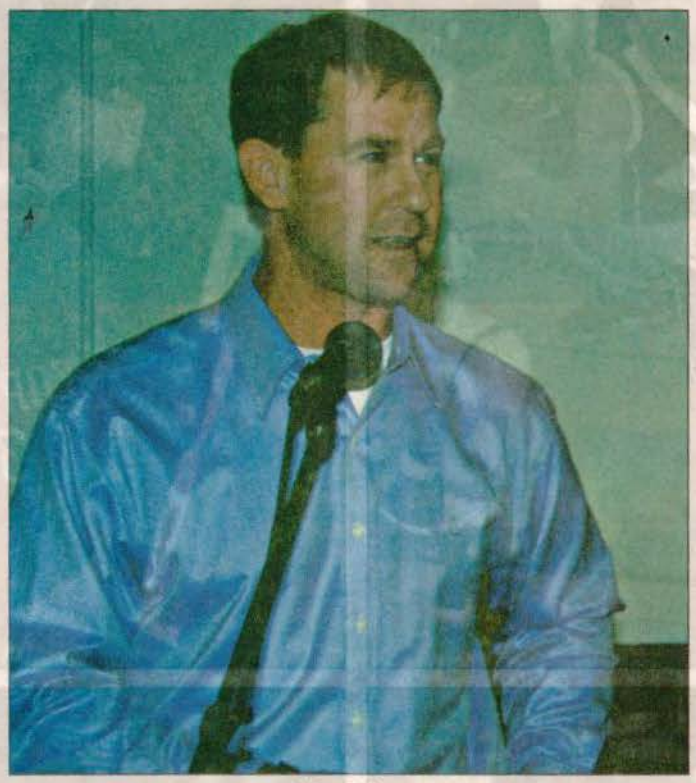
DECATUR—John Cohen, first-year head baseball coach at Mississippi State University, was the featured speaker at East Central Community College's First-Pitch Dinner held on Jan. 31 on the Decatur campus.

During his power-point presentation, Cohen discussed the Diamond Bulldogs' recruiting process and other topics of interest to the 230-plus in attendance at the third annual event.

Cohen, who left the University of Kentucky to return to his alma mater, said he looks for players who are academically as well as athletically talented.

"We're not satisfied unless our players excel in both areas," he said. He also stressed the importance of players knowing the difference between "Pride vs. Responsibility" and "Problems vs. Challenges."

In addition, he noted "eye contact, a firm handshake, effective communication and good posture" are among attributes used in the evaluation process of prospective players.



John Cohen

ECCC head baseball coach Neal Holliman expressed appreciation during his remarks to the many individuals who have assisted the Diamond Warrior program this year. He also recognized his coaching staff and team members for 2009.

The Diamond Warriors started their season action last week by hosting Bevill Fayette Community College.

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WEEK OF 2-18-09

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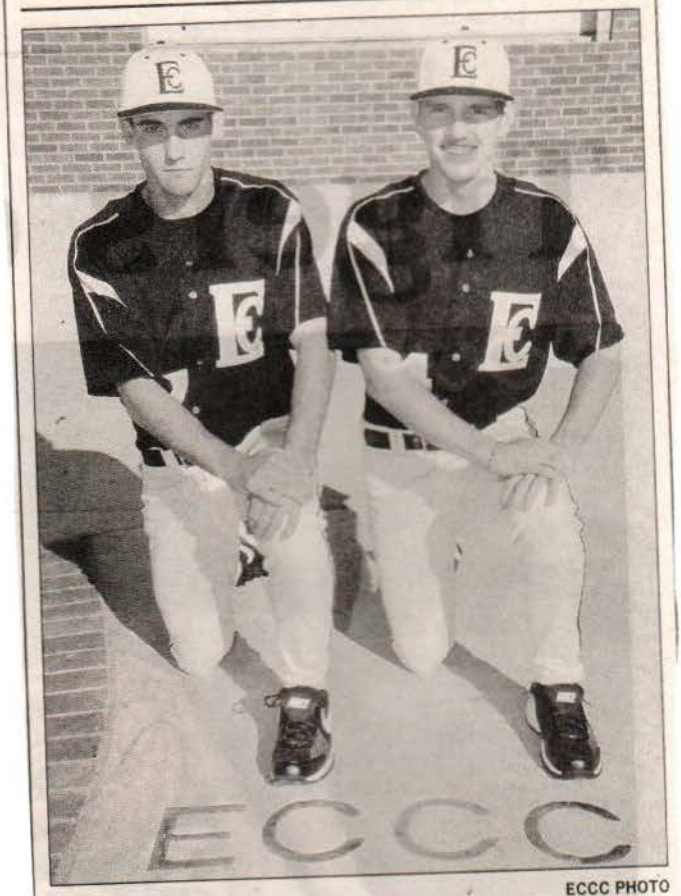

ECCC PHOTO

LAUDERDALE COUNTY WARRIORS

A pair of student-athletes from Lauderdale County are members of the 2009 East Central Community College baseball team. Pictured above are infielder Stephen Hudson of Calvary Christian School (left) and left-handed pitcher Timothy Maloney of Northeast Lauderdale.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR ✓

CLARION-LEDGER _____

ECCC PHOT

ECCC DIAMOND WARRIORS

Baseball season is under way for the East Central Community College Diamond Warriors whose 2009 members are shown above. First row, from left, are Drew Smith (38) of Louisville, student assistan outfielder Allen Cheek (2), Carroll Academy; right-handed pitcher Barry Meeks (31), Patrician Academy, Sweetwater, Ala.; left-handed pitcher Scott Lowrey (1), Neshoba Central; infielder Jack Edmondsc (4), Nanih Waiya; catcher/infielder Kylie Ming (5), Louisville; outfielder ZeEricka Hall (7), Carthage; catcher/pitcher Jordan Smith (18), Union; catcher/outfielder/first baseman Quin Stokes (21), Carthag infielder Cooper Robertson (20), Caledonia; catcher/infielder/outfielder Jeremy May (8), Newton County; right-handed pitcher Lance Gibson (11), Lurleen B. Wallace (Ala.) Community College; and lef handed pitcher Willard Bacon (36), Choctaw Central. Second row, from left, are Michael Avalon (39), assistant coach; left-handed pitcher Timothy Maloney (14), Northeast Lauderdale; right-handed pitc er Steven Barnes (16), Covington (La.) High School; outfielder Daniel Eichelberger (3) of Louisville and Delta State University; middle infielder Garrett Butler (10), Runnels (La.) High School; left-hande pitcher/outfielder Ernie Triplett (6), Louisville; right-handed pitcher Eric Dowell (25), Carthage; outfielder Idael Pestana (30), Morton; infielder Stephen Houston (27), Calvary Christian; Neal Hollima (29), head coach; and Roberto Martinez (33), assistant coach. Third row, from left, are right-handed pitcher/infielder Tyler Davis (26), Newton County; second baseman/third baseman Drew Bruhl (9 Ocean Springs; first baseman Callop Hampton (22) of Magee and Southwest Mississippi Community College; first baseman Seka York (28), Choctaw Central; outfielder Clint Coleman (13), Louisville; righ handed pitcher Tyler Nicholson (34), Neshoba Central; left-handed pitcher Austin Buchanan (19), Neshoba Central; first baseman John Michael Williamson (23) of Petal and Holmes Community Colleg left-handed pitcher/first baseman Drew Wilson (15), Newton County; right-handed pitcher Jay Mitchell (17), Pillow Academy; and catcher/first baseman Sam Wooten (12), Lake.

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ECCC Warriors expect more

SPECIAL TO THE TIMES

DECATUR—A "more athletic" and "faster" East Central Community College baseball team will take the field in 2009, said head coach Neal Holliman, whose Diamond Warriors begin action by hosting Bevill-Fayette Community College Wednesday, Feb. 4. Doubleheader action gets under way with a nine-inning matchup at 1 p.m. at the Clark/Gay Baseball Complex. A seven-inning contest will follow.

"I feel we are more athletic than in the past and our overall team speed is the best since we have been here," said Holliman, who led EC to the 2007 state title in his first year as head coach.

"The players have also displayed a quality work ethic and a positive attitude," he added. "Like other teams, we have days that are not satisfying but our jobs as coaches is to have our team prepared every day whether in practice or in a game."

Holliman said the goal for this year's squad is the same for his previous squads, which is "to maximize our potential."

"Sure we are fighting, clawing and striving for every chance and opportunity to be a program that continually competes for a regional championship and a World Series berth," he stated. "Although an East Central team has never been to a World Series does not mean that it cannot be done. Our goal will always be the same and even if we win a conference or regional championship and don't maximize our potential, we have not gotten the most out of the year."

ECCC PHOTO

SCOTT COUNTY DIAMOND WARRIORS

These student-athletes from Scott County are members of the 2009 East Central Community College baseball team. From left are catcher/first baseman Sam Wooten (12), a product of Lake High School, and outfielder Idael Pestana (30) of Morton.

Holliman said the "theme" for this season, as voted on by team members from several submissions, is "Everyone gives some; CHAMPIONS give all."

For East Central to have another championship season, Holliman said his young pitching staff and his young team - which includes 21 freshmen - will have to meet the challenges of community college baseball. And because his team is young, "there's still a lot to be determined as to the role of many players."

"We are young," he said, "but as a whole we really like the freshman class. They have adapted well to our philosophy and continue to show improvement each day."

Holliman noted that the strength of this year's squad is the returning players.

"We will depend a lot on our sophomore players and their leadership. I feel we have good leaders and, as always, time will tell

speed on diamond

once the season gets under way," he said.

Sophomores include pitchers Steven Barnes of Covington (La.) High School, Timothy Maloney, a product of Northeast Lauderdale High School in Meridian, and Lance Gibson of Toxey, Ala., a transfer from Lurleen B. Wallace Community College; outfielders Allen Cheek of Carroll Academy, Delta State University transfer Daniel Eichelberger and Clint Coleman, both of Louisville, and ZeEricka Hall of Carthage; infielders Jack Edmonson of Nanih Waiya, Holmes Community College transfer John Michael Williamson of Petal, and catcher/infielder Kylie Ming of Louisville.

Barnes and Maloney are the only returning starters on the mound from last year's squad, which finished 28-26 overall and 8-8 in league play and barely missed making the playoffs. Not a single starter returns from the infield.

Holliman said Maloney had a "bright" fall campaign on the mound and "consistently had quality outing after outing."

Also recognized by the ECCC head coach for having productive fall campaigns were Eichelberger and Ming, and freshman right-handed pitcher Jay Mitchell of Greenwood, a product of Pillow Academy. "Mitchell was another pitcher that was consistent throughout the fall," Holliman said.

In addition to Mitchell, other freshman team members include left-handed pitchers/outfielders Scott Lowrey of Neshoba Central and Ernie Triplett of Louisville; catchers/infielders/outfielders Jeremy May of Newton County High School and Quin Stokes of Carthage; middle infielders Drew Bruhl of Ocean Springs and Garrett Butler of Runnels High School in Prairieville, La.; catcher/infielder Sam Wooten of Lake; left-handed pitcher/first baseman Drew Wilson of Newton County High School; left-handed pitchers Austin Buchanan of Neshoba Central and Willard Bacon of Choctaw Central; infielders Cooper Robertson of Caledonia High School and Stephen Hudson of Meridian, who played at Calvary Christian School; right-handed pitchers Eric Dowell of Carthage, Barry Meeks of Sweetwater, Ala. and Patrician Academy, and Tyler Nicholson of Neshoba Central; right-handed pitcher/infielder Tyler Davis of Newton County High School; first basemen Callop Hampton of Magee, a transfer from Southwest Mississippi Community College, and Seka York of Choctaw Central; outfielder Idael Pestana of Morton; and catcher/infielder Jordan Smith of Union.

Returning as assistant coaches are Michael Avalon and Roberto Martinez.

Drew Smith of Louisville is serving as a student assistant and managers are Justin Joyner of Newton County High School and Phillip Williamson of Neshoba Central.

WEEK OF 2-16-09

Diamond Warriors split with Faulkner State

East Central Community College's baseball squad split decisions with Faulkner State Wednesday, rallying for a 15-14 victory in the first contest and falling 7-6 in the nightcap at the Clark/Gay Baseball Complex on the Decatur campus.

The Diamond Warriors, whose record stands at 4-2 on the young season, overcame a 12-2, seventh-inning deficit to claim the come-from-behind decision. East Central scored six runs in the seventh inning and seven in the eighth to take a 15-12 advantage before the visitors added two runs in the ninth for the final score.

Clint Coleman of Louisville led the EC offense with a home run and two singles. He was also credited with three RBIs and scored two runs.

In the second contest, East Central jumped out to a 1-0 first-inning lead but the visitors rallied for five runs in the third and held a 7-3 advantage until the seventh, when the Warriors scored three runs only to fall by the one-run margin.

The EC offense was led by Coleman, who tripled and singled, and Eichelberger, who had a double and single. Each was credited with an RBI and Eichelberger scored twice.

ECCC Lady Warriors cruise past Pearl River, Warriors fall

The playoff-bound East Central Community College women's basketball team had little trouble disposing of visiting Pearl River Community College Monday night, as the Lady Warriors rolled to a 75-45 victory.

Mystee Dale, a former standout at Choctaw Central High School, was once again the top point maker as she totaled 15 points, followed by classmate Rashima Jenkins with 13. Jenkins, who led in rebounds with 11, had a stellar career at Airline High School in Bossier, La., before becoming a Lady Warrior.

In the men's contest, the Warriors were unable to make shots in the game's final moment and were clipped 72-71 by the visiting Wildcats.

Kenneth Barlow, a freshman product of Scott Central High School, had a chance to send the division matchup into overtime but connected on the second of two free-throw attempts with 3.4 seconds remaining and the Warriors fell by the one point margin.

In a game that was close throughout, Pearl River's Timothy Ware gave his team the lead for good at 72-70 on his lay-in with under a minute remaining

Freshman Kenneth Thomas, a Jackson Provine product, led the Warriors with 14 points.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT ✓ ✓

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF 2-16-09

Scott County 'Diamond Warriors'

These student-athletes from Scott County are members of the 2009 East Central Community College baseball team. From left are catcher/first baseman Sam Wooten (12), a product of Lake High School, and outfielder Idael Pestana (30) of Morton. The Diamond Warriors are led by head coach Neal Holliman and assistants Michael Avalon and Roberto Martinez. Drew Smith of Louisville serves as a student assistant. (EC Photo)

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON ✓

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

Juco Baseball: ECCC Preview

Warriors expected to be faster, more athletic

By Bubby Johnston
ECCC Public Relations

DECATUR — A "more athletic" and "faster" East Central Community College baseball team will take the field in 2009, said head coach Neal Holliman, whose Diamond Warriors begin action by hosting Bevill-Fayette Community College on Wednesday.

Holliman

Doubleheader action gets under way with a nine-inning matchup at 1 p.m. at the Clark/Gay Baseball Complex. A seven-inning contest will follow.

"I feel we are more athletic than in the past and our overall team speed is the best since we have been here," said Holliman, who led EC to the 2007 state title in his first year as head coach.

"The players have also displayed a quality work ethic and a positive attitude," he said. "Like other teams, we have days that are not satisfying but our jobs as coaches is to have our team prepared every day whether in practice or in a game."

Holliman said the goal for this year's squad is the same for his previous squads, which is "to maximize our potential."

"Sure we are fighting, clawing and striving for every chance and opportunity to be a program that continually competes for a regional championship and a World Series berth," Holliman said. "Although an East Central team has never been to a World Series does not mean that it cannot be done.

"Our goal will always be the same and even if we win a conference or regional championship and don't maximize our potential, we have not gotten the most out of the year."

For East Central to have another championship season, Holliman said his young pitching staff and his young team – which includes 21 freshmen — will have to meet the challenges of community college baseball. And because his team is young, "there's still a lot to be determined as to the role of many players."

"We are young," he said, "but as a whole we really like the freshman class. They have adapted well to our philosophy and continue to show improvement each day."

Holliman noted that the strength of this year's squad is the returning players.

"We will depend a lot on our sophomore players and their leadership. I feel we have good leaders and, as always, time will tell once the season gets under way."

Sophomores include pitchers Steven Barnes, Northeast Lauderdale product Timothy Maloney and Lance Gibson, a transfer from L.B. Wallace Community College; outfielders Allen Cheek, Delta State University transfer Daniel Eichelberger and Clint Coleman, both of Louisville, and ZeEricka Hall; infielders Jack Edmonson of Nanih Waiya, Holmes Community College transfer John Michael Williamson and catcher/infielder Kylie Ming of Louisville.

Barnes and Maloney are the only returning starters on the mound from last year's squad, which finished 28-26 overall and 8-8 in league play and barely missed making the playoffs. Not a single starter returns from the infield.

Holliman said Maloney had a "bright" fall campaign on the mound and "consistently had quality outing after outing."

Also recognized by the ECCC head coach for having productive fall campaigns were Eichelberger, Ming and freshman right-handed pitcher Jay Mitchell.

In addition to Mitchell, other freshman team members include left-handed pitchers/outfielders Scott Lowrey of Neshoba Central and Ernie Triplett of Louisville; catchers/infielders/outfielders Jeremy May of Newton County High School and Quin Stokes; middle infielders Drew Bruhl and Garrett Butler; catcher/infielder Sam Wooten of Lake; left-handed pitcher/first baseman Drew Wilson of Newton County; left-handed pitchers Austin Buchanan of Neshoba Central and Willard Bacon of Choctaw Central; infielders Cooper Robertson and Stephen Hudson of Meridian, who played at Calvary Christian School; right-handed pitchers Eric Dowell, Barry Meeks of Sweetwater, Ala. and Patrician Academy, and Tyler Nicholson of Neshoba Central; right-handed pitcher/infielder Tyler Davis of Newton County; first basemen Callop Hampton; Seka York of Choctaw Central; outfielder Idael Pestana; and catcher/infielder Jordan Smith of Union.

Returning as assistant coaches are Michael Avalon and Roberto Martinez.

ECCC Warriors Schedule

Feb. 4	Bevill-Fayette	Mar. 21	at Gulf Coast
Feb. 7	at Marion Military	Mar. 24	at L.B. Wallace
Feb. 11	Faulkner State	Mar. 28	Hinds
Feb. 13	ECCC Invitational	Apr. 1	Pearl River
Feb. 19	at Wallace-Hanceville	Apr. 4	Southwest
Feb. 21	Kaskaskia, Ill.	Apr. 7	Copiah-Lincoln
Feb. 24	at Mississippi Delta	Apr. 10	at Jones County
Feb. 28	LSU-Eunice	Apr. 15	Gulf Coast
Mar. 7	Itawamba	Apr. 18	at LSU-Eunice
Mar. 10	at Southwest	Apr. 21	at Hinds
Mar. 14	at Copiah-Lincoln	Apr. 25	at Pearl River
Mar. 18	Jones County	Apr. 28	at Baton Rouge, La.

MERIDIAN STAR
CLARION-LEDGER
UNION APPEAL
WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL
SPIRIT OF MORTON

WEEK OF 1-26-09

ECCC PHOTO

Standout high school baseball players Colton Mitchell (seated second from left) of Lake and Tyler Cox (seated third from left) of Forest signed national letters-of-intent with East Central Community College during a ceremony held Thursday, Jan. 15 on the Decatur campus. Shown with the new Diamond Warriors for 2009-10 are (seated from left) Neal Holliman, ECCC head baseball coach and Hamer Morgan, FHS head baseball coach; and (standing from left) Roberto Martinez, ECCC assistant; Mitchell's parents, Darlene and Howard Mitchell; Cox's parents, Ricky and Kristi Cox; and ECCC assistants Michael Avalon and Drew Smith.

Scott County athletes join EC

Baseball season cranks up next week

FROM STAFF REPORTS

DECATUR—Before the first pitch is thrown next week to start the 2009 baseball season in Scott County, two local athletes have already decided whose diamond they will be playing on after their high school careers end in May.

Colton Mitchell of Lake and Tyler Cox of Forest signed national letters-of-intent to play baseball as Warriors for East Central Community College earlier this month.

Mitchell, son of Darlene and Howard Mitchell, a 6' 185-pound pitcher, is an All-District selection and received the Hornets' pitching award. He is also a member of the 300 Club and is an academic award recipient.

Cox, son of Ricky and Kristi Cox, a 6-1, 180-pound catcher, also made All-District, qualified for the Bearcats' 300 Club and was named the team's best offensive player. He was also named All-District in football. In addition, Cox is an honor student and Eagle Scout.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES ✓

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF 1-26-09

Diamond Warriors ready to open season

from school reports

A "more athletic" and "faster" East Central Community College baseball team will take the field in 2009, said head coach Neal Holliman, whose Diamond Warriors begin action by hosting Bevill-Fayette Community College Wednesday, Feb. 4. Doubleheader action gets under way with a nine-inning matchup at 1 p.m. at the Clark/Gay Baseball Complex. A seven-inning contest will follow.

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In addition to Mitchell, other freshman team members include left-handed pitchers/outfielders Scott Lowrey of Neshoba Central and Ernie Triplett of Louisville; catchers/infielders/outfielders Jeremy May of Newton County High School and Quin Stokes of Carthage; middle infielders Drew Bruhl of Ocean Springs and Garrett Butler of Runnels High School in Prairieville, La.; catcher/infielder Sam Wooten of Lake; left-handed pitcher/first baseman Drew Wilson of Newton County High School; left-handed pitchers Austin Buchanan of Neshoba Central and Willard Bacon of Choctaw Central; infielders Cooper Robertson of Caledonia High School and Stephen Hudson of Meridian, who played at Calvary Christian School; right-handed pitchers Eric Dowell of Carthage, Barry Meeks of Sweetwater, Ala. and Patrician Academy, and Tyler Nicholson of Neshoba Central; right-handed pitcher/infielder Tyler Davis of Newton County High School; first basemen Callop Hampton of Magee, a transfer from Southwest Mississippi Community College, and Seka York of Choctaw Central; outfielder Idael Pestana of Morton; and catcher/infielder Jordan Smith of Union.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL ✓

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF 1-19-09

CHS trio signs with Diamond Warriors

With their final season as members of the Carthage Tigers approaching, Charles Hill, Richie Long and Pervis Mann have made plans to continue their baseball careers together in signing a national letter of intent to play for the East Central Warriors next season. The trio made their commitments official in a signing ceremony held Thursday at ECCC. Pictured, from left, seated, are ECCC head coach Neal Holliman, Hill, Long, Mann and ECCC assistant coach Michael Avalon; standing, assistant coach Roberto Martinez, Hill's mother Ruby, Long's mother Donna, Mann's father Pervis Mann Jr. and assistant coach Drew Smith. David Luke is coach of the Carthage Tigers.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN ✓

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF 1-19-09

Juco Baseball

ECCC PHOTO

NEW DIAMOND WARRIORS

Ten area baseball standouts signed national letters-of-intent to continue their careers at East Central Community College in Decatur during a ceremony held Thursday. Signees and their respective high schools include (seated from left) pitcher Colton Mitchell, Lake; catcher Tyler Cox, Forest; and middle infielder Charles Hill, pitcher/outfielder Pervis Mann and pitcher/infielder Richie Long, all of Carthage. Standing from left are ECCC assistant coach Roberto Martinez and head coach Neal Holliman; outfielder/pitcher Donnie Tabb and pitcher Joel McKee, both of Neshoba Central; pitcher Cole Harris and centerfielder Tyler Robinson, both of Newton County; pitcher/shortstop Tyler Dalton, Winston Academy; and ECCC assistant coaches Michael Avalon and Drew Smith.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

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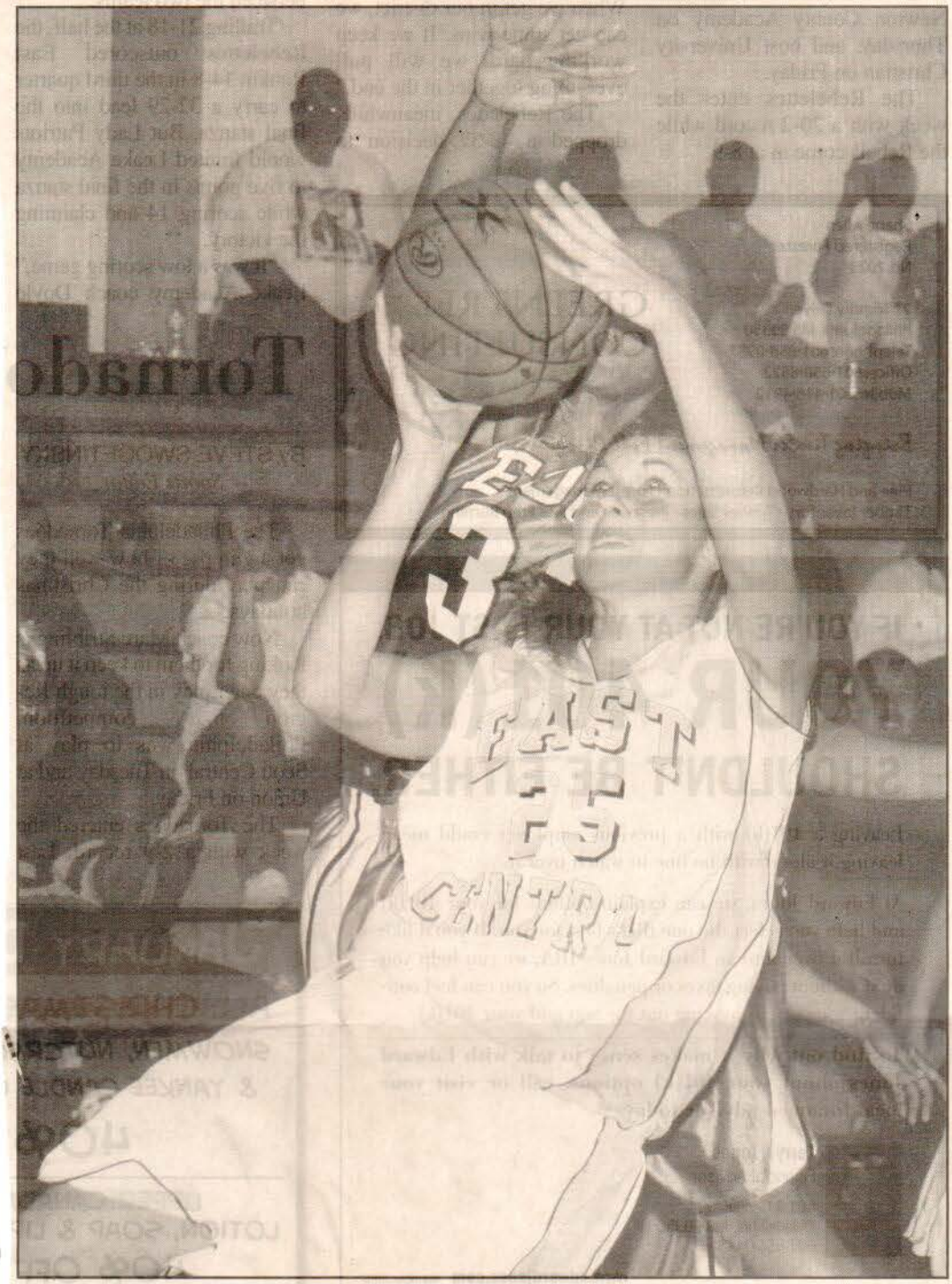
NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR ✓

CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF 1-5-09

new year with wins



EC Photo

Above, Lady Warrior Hannah Lee (25) attempts a shot while being pressured by an Enterprise-Ozark defender during East Central's 76-60 victory over the visiting Lady Boll Weevils Saturday afternoon in Decatur. Lee, a 5-11 freshman forward, is a former standout at Leake Academy.At left, Warrior Jacob Jordan (21) makes an easy two-pointer during East Central's 71-63 decision over visiting Enterprise-Ozark. Other Warriors shown are Steve Edwards (34) and Chucky Curry (44), both of Newton.

APPEARED

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SPIRIT OF MORTON

EC squads begin

Basketball competition resumed following the Christmas break on a positive note for East Central Community College squads, which posted victories over Enterprise-Ozark Saturday afternoon in the Brackeen-Wood Physical Education Building in Decatur.

The EC women had little trouble outscoring the Lady Boll Weevils, cruising to a 76-60 decision and completing a series sweep of their non-division opponent from Enterprise, Ala.

EC's men overcame a sluggish start and a slim halftime deficit to defeat the Weevils by a 71-63 margin and also registered a series sweep.

Choctaw Central product Mystee Dale tallied 29 points - which included five three-point shots - to lead the Lady Warriors, who improved to 8-4 overall under fourth-year head coach Bill Smith.

Also scoring were Rashima Jenkins, a product of Airline High School in Bossier City, La., 17; Allison Phillips of Leake Academy and Katherine Taylor of Carthage, six each; DeShouri Spates of St. Thomas More H.S. in Lafayette, La., Sierra Croft of Newton County, Alisha McAfee of Northwest Rankin and Hannah Lee of Leake Academy, four each; and Danielle Cole of Philadelphia, two.

In the men's contest, Josh Luckett of Carthage pumped in 28 points as the Warriors evened their record to 6-6 under third-year head coach Maurice Bowie.

Also having a productive night was Devarus "Scooter" Walker, who scored 21 points and was successful on seven of eight free throws. Walker, a product of Newton County High School, made a short jumper and three straight freebees in the game's final moments to clinch the victory.

Lady Warriors rally to beat Itawamba; Warriors fall

East Central Community College's Lady Warriors rallied from a 15-point halftime deficit to clip the Itawamba Community College women 76-72 Monday night in a non-division matchup.

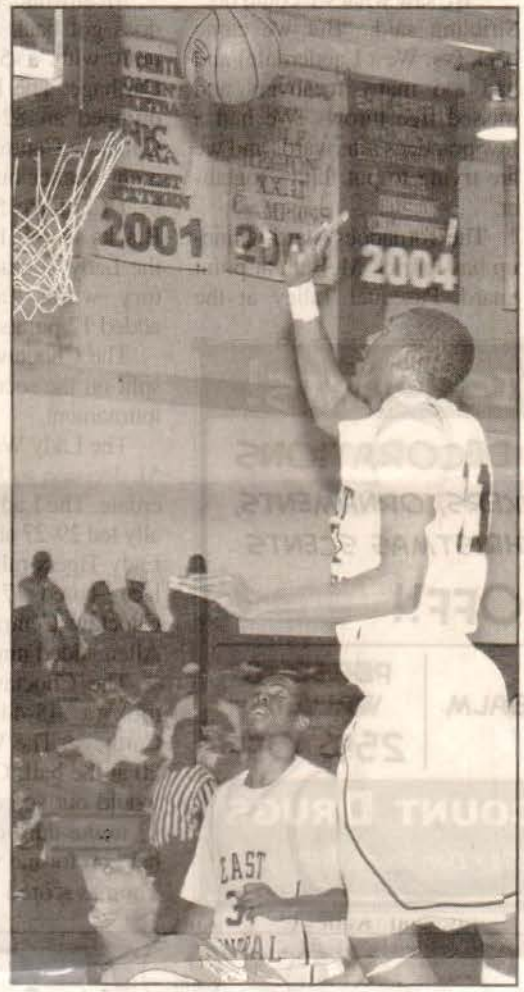
Sophomore standouts Rashima Jenkins, a product of Airline High School in Bossier City, La., and former Choctaw Central star Mystee Dale led the comeback by pouring in 24 and 23 points, respectively.

Also scoring for EC were Hannah Lee of Leake Academy, 12; Allison Phillips, also of Leake Academy, six; Sha Coleman of Newton County, Alisha McAfee of Northwest Rankin and Danielle Cole of Philadelphia, three each; and Deshouri Spates, of St. Thomas More H.S. in Lafayette, La., two. Phillips led in rebounds with nine.

After shooting a dismal 33.3 percent (10-30) from the field in the first half, the Lady Warriors responded by making 12 of 24 field goals in second half action. EC was also successful on four of nine three-point shots and connected on 22 of 31 attempts from the free-throw line.

In the men's contest, the Warriors were outscored 77-64 by the visiting Indians and dropped to 6-7 overall under third-year head coach Maurice Bowie.

Josh Luckett of Carthage was the top EC scorer with 12 points and nine rebounds. Other point makers included Devarus "Scooter" Walker of Newton County and Kenny Thomas of Jackson Provine, 11 each; James Starks of Meridian, eight; Kennethy Barlow of Scott Central, six; and Antonio Grace and Steve Edwards, both Newton High School products, five each; and Rico Jones of Forest, Jacob Jordan of Opelousas, La., and Andre Pitchford of Jackson Provine, two each.



WEEK OF 1-5-09

ECCC women pick up two wins

East Central Community College's Lady Warriors rallied from a 15-point halftime deficit to clip the Itawamba Community College women 76-72 Monday night in a non-division matchup at Decatur.

Sophomore standouts Rashima Jenkins, a product of Airline High School in Bossier City, La., and former Choctaw Central star Mystee Dale led the comeback by pouring in 24 and 23 points, respectively, as the Lady Warriors improved to 9-4 overall under fourth-year head coach Bill Smith. Jenkins was also credited with eight rebounds and Dale had eight.

Hannah Lee added 12 points while Allison Phillips had six points and nine rebounds.

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EC sweeps Ozark

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EAST CENTRAL COMMUNITY COLLEGE PHOTO

Lady Warrior Hannah Lee (25) tries to attempt a shot while being pressured by an Enterprise-Ozark defender during East Central's 76-60 victory Saturday in Decatur.

MERIDIAN STAR

CLARION-LEDGER

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL

SPIRIT OF MORTON

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WEEK OF 1-5-09

EC women win twice on the hardwood

By Marty Stamper
Appeal Sports Editor

The East Central Community College Lady Warriors defeated Enterprise-Ozark and Itawamba Community College in recent basketball action to improve to 9-4.

The Warriors knocked off the Alabama team, but lost to Itawamba as their record went to 6-7.

The EC squads continue their homestand by taking on Delgado Community College of New Orleans on Thursday and Southwest Mississippi Community College on Monday, Jan. 12.

EC women 76
Enterprise-Ozark 60

Former Choctaw Central standout Mystee Dale canned five 3-point baskets and scored 29 points to lead the Lady Warriors to Saturday's win at Decatur.

In improving to 8-4, the Lady Warriors also got 17 points from Rashima Jenkins, six each from Allison Phillips and Katherine Taylor, and four each from DeShouri Spates, Sierra Croft, Alisha McAfee, and Hannah Lee.

EC led 43-31 at halftime.

Kendra McKinney scored 21 points for Enterprise-Ozark (2-10).

EC men 71
Enterprise-Ozark 63

The Warriors erased a three-point halftime deficit in completing Saturday's sweep.

The Warriors, who were down 26-23 at halftime, erupted for 48 points in the second half to knock off the Boll Weevils.

Former Newton County standout Scooter Walker, who hit 7-of-8 free throws, nailed three shots from the charity stripe in the final seconds to seal the win.

Walker finished with 21 points and Josh Luckett tossed in 28 to lead EC.

The Warriors (6-6) also got four points each from James Starks and Andre Pitchford.

Wendell May scored 16 points and Michael Abbott added 15 to lead Enterprise-Ozark (6-7).

EC women 76
Itawamba 72

The Lady Warriors battled back from a 15-point halftime deficit to win Monday's contest at Decatur.

Rashima Jenkins, a product of Airline High School in Bossier City, La., and Mystee Dale led the comeback by pouring in 24 and 23 points, respectively, as the Lady Warriors improved to 9-4.

Jenkins was also credited with eight rebounds and Dale had eight.

Also scoring for EC were Hannah Lee with 12 points and Allison Phillips with six.

After shooting 33.3 percent (10-of-30) from the field in the first half, the Lady Warriors responded by making 12-of-24 field goals in the second half.

EC was also successful on 4-of-9 3-point shots and connected on 22-of-31 attempts from the free-throw line.

Itawamba (10-4) was led by Nastasha Berry, Sanquetta Meardith, and Birdie Bowens with 14 points apiece.

EC trailed 41-26 at halftime.

Itawamba 77
EC men 64

The Warriors fell to 6-7 with Monday's loss to the Indians.

Josh Luckett led EC with 12 points and nine rebounds.

Devarus "Scooter" Walker and Kenny Thomas added 11 points each, James Starks scored eight, Kenneth Barlow tossed in six, and Antonio Grace and Steve Edwards both had five.

Gary Dickinson had 19 points to lead Itawamba (10-3).

The Indians led 44-38 at halftime.

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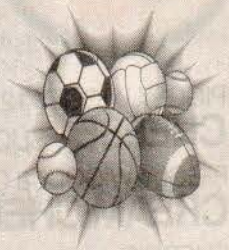

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____
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MERIDIAN STAR _____
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WEEK OF 1-5-09

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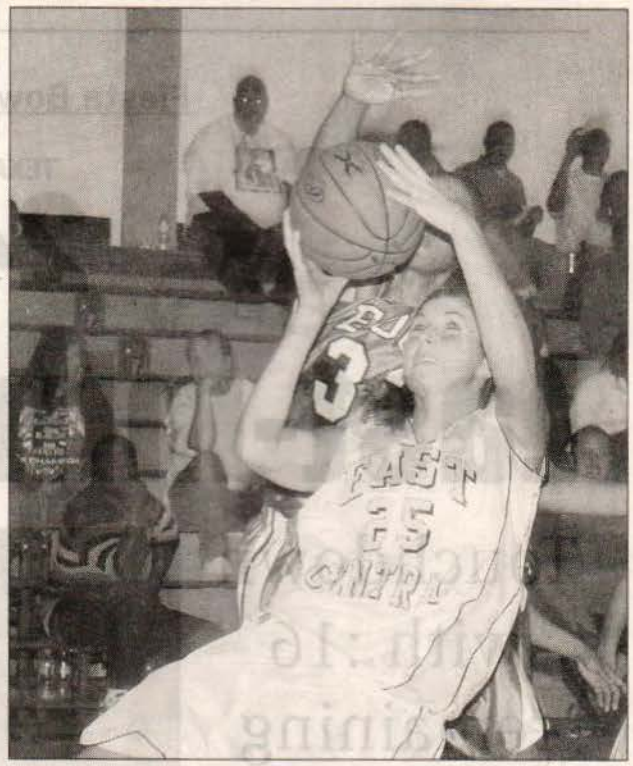

ECCC PHOTO

FEELING THE PRESSURE

East Central Community College's Hannah Lee — a former Leake Academy standout — attempts a shot while being pressured by an Enterprise-Ozark defender during EC's 76-60 victory over the visiting Lady Boll Weevils Saturday afternoon in Decatur. The Lady Warriors beat Itawamba Community College Monday night. *See story, page B3.*

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR ✓

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WEEK OF 1-12-09

Warriors rally past Southwest

After trailing by 16 points and shooting a dismal 26 percent from the floor during first-half action, East Central Community College's Warriors rallied for an impressive 73-63 victory over Southwest Mississippi Community College Monday night in the Brackeen-Wood Physical Education Building in Decatur.

East Central, which improved to 7-8 overall and 1-1 in MACJC South Division action, connected on 14 of 25 attempts (56 percent) in the second half and made 22 of 29 free throws (75.9 percent) to ice the victory as they outscored the Bears by a 51-29 margin.

Third-year head coach Maurice Bowie was obviously pleased with his team's second-half comeback.

"Sometimes playing slow makes you quick....in terms of last night we slowed them down the second half by playing defense and creating offense for us," said Bowie.

Josh Luckett, a 6-5 soph-

See **ECCC**, Page 2B

ECCC PHOTO

Warrior Chucky Curry (44) attempts a shot over Southwest's Austin Holloway (21) during East Central's 73-63 comeback win over the visiting Bears Monday night.

APPEARED

CARTHAGI... _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD ✓

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

ECCC

From Page 1B

omore guard/forward from Carthage, led the rally by pouring in 14 points and grabbing six rebounds. Also scoring were Antonio Grace, a Newton High School product, 12; Rico Jones of Forest, 11; Devarus "Scooter" Walker of Newton County, 10; Kenneth Barlow of Scott Central, seven; Rod Lofton of Forest, six; Jacob Jordan of Opelousas, La., five; Steve Edwards and Chucky Curry, both of Newton, three each; and Kenny Thomas of Jackson Provine, two. Barlow led in rebounds with seven.

Otis Smith had 14 points to lead Southwest, which fell to 1-11 and 0-2.

The Bears held a 34-22 advantage at halftime.

In the women's game, sophomore forward Rashima Jenkins pumped in 22 points and led the Lady Warriors to a 73-60 decision over their opponent from Summit. Jenkins, a product of Airline High School in Bossier City, La., also led in rebounds with 11.

With the victory, EC Katherine Taylor of Carthage, two.

The Lady Warriors made 14 of 39 field goals (35.9 percent) in the first half and were 15 of 28 (53.6 percent) in second-half action. EC was somewhat successful at the free-throw line, connecting on 13 of 24 shots (54.2 percent).

Octavian Bearden of Tylertown had 18 points to lead Southwest.

EC led 37-26 at the break.

East Central squads travel to Hinds Community College Thursday for another division matchup on the Utica campus. The Lady Warriors and Warriors host league opponent Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College on Tuesday, Jan. 20 in the Brackeen-Wood gym. The game was moved from Monday because of the Martin Luther King holiday. Women's action begins at 6 p.m. followed by the men's contest at 8 p.m.

ECCC splits with Delgado

East Central Community College squads split decisions with Delgado Community College Thursday night in non-

Choctaw Central, seven; Sha Coleman of Newton County, six; and DeShouri Spates of St. Thomas More High School in Lafayette, La., Lanie Triplett of Scott Central and Danielle Cole of Philadelphia, two each.

Jamey Ellis had 17 points to lead the Lady Dolphins, who fell to 5-12.

EC held a 41-28 advantage at the break.

The Lady Warriors defeated Delgado 68-59 in New Orleans in the season opener on Nov. 1.

EC returns to MACJC South Division action Monday by hosting Southwest Mississippi Community College at 6 p.m. The Lady Warriors are 0-1 in league play after falling 76-71 to home-standing Copiah-Lincoln Community College on Dec. 8. The Lady Bears began division play by falling 77-50 to the Lady Wolves Thursday night.

In the men's contest, Newton County High School product Devarus "Scooter" Walker had 18 points to lead the Warriors, who dropped to 6-8 under third-year head coach Maurice Bowie.

Bowie, although disappointed with the loss, had positive comments about

improved to 11-4 overall and 1-1 in league play, while the Lady Bears dropped to 6-5 and 0-2.

Following the victory, fourth-year head coach Bill Smith complimented his team's performance.

"I thought we did a real good job especially after Mystee (Dale) was injured in the first half," Smith said. "We had some other people to step up and I thought DeShouri Spates probably played her best game of the year. It was just a good effort from everybody." (Dale's injury is not serious and she is expected to play Thursday at Hinds.)

Spates, a 5-4 freshman guard from St. Thomas More High School in Lafayette, La., was EC's second-leading scorer with 11 points. Other point makers were Allison Phillips of Leake Academy and Alisha McAfee of Northwest Rankin, eight each; Dale, a Choctaw Central product and Danielle Cole of Philadelphia, six each; Hannah Lee of Leake Academy and Sha Coleman of Newton County, five each; and division action held in the Brackeen-Wood Physical Education Building in Decatur.

The Lady Warriors held on for a 60-51 victory over the Lady Dolphins but the Warriors were unable to maintain their 19-point halftime advantage and fell 87-82 to the visitors from Louisiana.

Sophomore forward Rashima Jenkins poured in 26 points to lead the EC women, who improved to 10-4 under fourth-year head coach Bill Smith. Jenkins, a product of Airline High School in Bossier City, La., also led in rebounds with 10.

Although pleased with the victory, Smith was disappointed in his team's performance.

"It wasn't one of our best efforts....we didn't play very well," Smith said in a post-game interview. "We had a couple of starters that were injured but we were able to manage to hang on and pull out the victory at the end."

In addition to Jenkins, other scorers were Hannah Lee of Leake Academy, 13; Mystee Dale of his team's efforts, specifically in the first half when the Warriors rolled to a 45-26 advantage.

"I thought we did a good job in the first half extending the offense," Bowie said in a post-game interview. "We also played our defense strategically, and I thought everybody did a good job rotating and understanding what we were doing."

Bowie added, "We've got to do a much better job once we get the lead, keeping our composure and understanding how to close out ball games."

Also scoring in double figures were Josh Luckett of Carthage, 17; Jacob Jordan of Opelousas, La., 13; and Antonio Grace of Newton, 10. Other scorers were Kenneth Barlow of Scott Central, seven; Rico Jones of Forest, six; Steve Edwards of Newton, five; Chucky Curry of Newton, four; and Kenny Thomas of Jackson Provine, two.

Ricardo Porter pumped in 30 points to lead the Dolphins, who improved to 5-13 and avenged an 85-72 defeat to the Warriors in the season opener.

# of Itawamba; East Central sweeps Southwest

through the half.

ICC's Theron Jenkins, a Texas Tech signee, cut the deficit to a single point (81-80) with a pair of free throws at the 1:45 mark.

Following an EMCC timeout, the Indians stole the inbounds pass and Gary Dixon converted a 3-pointer to give ICC a brief 83-81 advantage with 1:15 remaining.

With less than 30 seconds left, EMCC's Taylor drove the length of the floor to knot the contest at 83-83.

Following a missed opportunity by ICC to take back the lead, Taylor again drove the lane and was sent to the line for the eventual game-winning free throws with 4.6 seconds left.

Malcolm Burton's potential game-winning 3-pointer banged off the back of the rim to secure the Lions' two-point road victory.

Ware finished with a game-high 29 points and 10 rebounds to register his second double-double of the season. With five Lions in double figures, sophomore Darian Donald of Columbus added 14 points for the winners. Ware and Donald were each 9-of-9 from the line on the night.

— from school reports

EMCC pulls off upset

from staff reports

FULTON — Sophomore point guard Cataurius Taylor connected on two free throws with 4.6 seconds left to give the East Mississippi Lions a key 85-83 road win over Itawamba Monday night at the Davis Event Center.

Rebounding from last week's 85-80 divisional setback at Coahoma, coach Mark White's 9-5 Lions improve their North Division mark to 2-1 on the year.

Losing for just the eighth time in the last two seasons, the Indians fall to 11-4 overall and 2-1 in divisional play in seeing their eight-game winning streak snapped.

Fueled by freshman Coco Ware's 16 first-half points, EMCC used a 10-0 run early in the opening period to take a 25-18 lead midway through the half.

The visitors opened up as much as a 15-point lead during the second stanza, but struggled with turnovers on four straight possessions midway

Itawamba women 77
East Mississippi 71

The Lady Indians of ICC claimed a six-point win over the EMCC women in the night's opening contest.

With former Southeast Lauderdale star Martika Hull leading the way with 16 points and seven rebounds, coach Sharon Thompson's Lady Lions fall to 10-4 overall and 2-1 in North Division play on the year.

The East Mississippi basketball teams return to action next week by hosting divisional foes Mississippi Delta and Holmes on Tuesday and Thursday, respectively, at Keyes T. Currie Coliseum on the Scooba campus.

— from school reports

East Central men 73
Southwest 61

Trailing by 16 points with 5 minutes remaining in the first half, the East Central Community College Warriors mounted a comeback that would lead to a 12-point win.

The Warriors (7-8, 1-1 MACJC South Division), who were down by eight at halftime, beat Southwest Community College 73-61 on Monday in Decatur.

EC, which shot 25.8 percent in the first half, knocked down 14-of-25 in the final 20 minutes, while connecting on 22-of-29 attempts from the free throw line.

Josh Luckett paced the Warriors with 14 points, while former Newton standout Antonio Grace posted 12.

Rico Jones and ex-Newton County Cougar Scooter Walker scored 11 and 10, respectively.

The Warriors travel to the Utica campus of Hinds Community College Thursday.

— Chris Brennaman

East Central women 73
Southwest 60

The Lady Warriors pulled even in MACJC South Division play with a 13-point win over Southwest.

Rashima Jenkins notched a double-double with 22 points and 11 boards, while DeShouri Spates chipped in 11 points.

East Central, which improved to 11-4 overall and 1-1 in the division, will join the men's team at Hinds Thursday.

— Chris Brennaman

PREP BASKETBALL

Central Aca. girls 43
Russell Christian 33

The host Lady Vikings outscored Russell by six points each in the second and fourth periods and posted a double-digit win at CA's Varner Gymnasium in Macon.

Central (7-8) led by just one after the first quarter but was up 18-11 at halftime. After the visiting Lady Warriors pulled within four, the Lady Vikes held a 14-8 advantage in the fourth period.

Lillian Lindsey scored 13 points and Kendall Taylor added 11 to lead Central, while Alex Dawkins pulled in 10 rebounds.

Jessie Fuller led RCA with nine points, while Jade McLeod scored eight.

Central's girls are at Hebron Friday and Russell's girls go to Ben's Ford Friday.

— Rocky Higginbotham

Wayne Aca. girls 51
Lamar Christian 33

Wayne Academy led by 11 after the first half and picked up a road win over Lamar Christian.

Katrina Lofton scored a game-high 13 points to pace the Lady Jaguars, who improved to 15-3.

Lexi Bowen added 12, including a pair of 3-pointers, while Kelli Durr chipped in nine.

Wayne Academy's game with Sylva-Bay will be the Lady Jags' fourth game in five days.

— Chris Brennaman

PREP SOCCER

West Lauderdale 3
Northeast girls 2

The Lady Knights took a tight division win over the Lady Trojans in a battle of cross-country rivals at West.

Baleigh Germany scored first for West off an assist from Hannah Scott, only to see Northeast Lauderdale put a pair of goals on the board and take a 2-1 lead at intermission.

In the second half, Germany scored again to even things at 2 — this time off a corner kick from Kaitlin Polk.

Hannah Scott got the game-winning goal off an assist from Kayte Ford with less than 5 minutes remaining.

Erika Joyner was credited with seven saves in goal for West, which is 5-1 overall and 1-0 in division play. The Lady Knights host Kosciusko tonight in another division contest.

Northeast's girls are at Clarkdale tonight.

— Rocky Higginbotham

Lamar boys 7
Hillcrest 0

Andy Waite scored four goals as Lamar improved to 8-0 with a shut out of visiting Hillcrest.

One of Waite's goals came on a header off a corner kick by Cameron Melancon, who finished with three assists and a goal of his own.

Tripp Sims and Scott Bounds also scored for the Raiders.

Combining for the win in goal were Tyler Roberts and Steven Stewart.

Lamar travels to Jackson Prep Thursday.

— Chris Brennaman

LATE PREP BASKETBALL

East Oktibbeha 62
Noxubee County girls 40

The Tigerettes played

See **Roundup**
Page B4

MES
UNION APPEAL
WINSTON COUNTY JOU
SPIRIT OF MORTON

WEEK OF 1-17-09

ECCC women continue to win

By Marty Stamper
Appeal Sports Editor

The East Central Community College Lady Warriors defeated Southwest and Hinds in last week's basketball action to improve to 12-4 overall and 2-1 in the MACJC South Division.

The Warriors beat Southwest but lost at Hinds to enter the week with a 7-9 overall mark and a 1-2 record in division play.

ECCC travels to Pearl River Community College in Poplarville Thursday.

EC women	**73**
Southwest	**60**

Sophomore forward Rashima Jenkins scored 22 points and had 11 rebounds to lead the Lady Warriors as they improved to 11-4 overall and 1-1 in the division.

DeShouri Spates scored 11 points, Allison Phillips and Alisha McAfee both had eight, Mystee Dale and Danielle Cole both had six, and Hannah Lee and Sha Coleman both added five.

Octavian Bearden led Southwest (6-5, 0-2) with 18 points.

The Lady Warriors made 14-of-39 field goals (35.9 percent) in the first half and were 15-of-28 (53.6 percent) over the last 20 miniutes.

EC led 37-26 at the break.

EC men	**73**
Southwest	**63**

The Warriors rallied from a 16-point deficit to knock off the Bears on January 12 at Decatur.

After shooting just 26 percent from the floor in the first half, the Warriors made 14-of-25 shots (56 percent) in the second half. In addition, EC was 22-of-29 from the free-throw line in improving to 7-8 overall and 1-1 in division play.

EC outscored the Bears 51-29 in the second half.

Josh Luckett, a 6-foot-5 sophomore guard/forward from Carthage, led EC with 14 points and six rebounds. Antonio Grace added 12 points, Rico Jones scored 11, Scooter Walker had 10, Kenneth Barlow seven, Rod Lofton six, and Jacob Jordan five.

Otis Smith led Southwest (1-11, 0-2) with 14 points.

The Bears led 34-22 at halftime.

EC women	**79**
Hinds	**59**

Rashima Jenkins led EC to its fifth-straight win with 13 points Thursday at Utica.

Hannah Lee scored 12, Allison Phillips added 11, Mystee Dale scored nine, Sha Coleman seven, and Lanie Triplett and Danielle Cole both had six as the Lady Warriors improved to 12-4 overall and 2-1 in division play.

Regena Grigsby led Hinds (4-10) with 11 points.

EC led 44-31 at halftime.

Hinds	**73**
EC men	**68**

The Warriors dropped to 7-9 overall and 1-2 in the division with Thursday's loss at Utica.

Kenneth Barlow led EC with 12 points. Scooter Walker scored 11, Antonio Grace had nine, Josh Luckett eight, and Steve Edwards, Rico Jones, and Jacob Jordan each had six.

Courtney Nelson had 23 points to lead Hinds.

Hinds led 34-33 at halftime.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL ✓

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

DEMOCRAT _____

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WEEK OF 1-19-09

East Central 68
Pearl River women 57

Behind three double-figure scorers, the Lady Warriors rallied back from a halftime deficit Thursday night at Pearl River Community College.

Trailing 34-29 at the break, East Central controlled play in the second half, outscoring the Lady Wildcats 39-23.

Deshouri Spates led ECCC with 16 points, hitting four 3-pointers. Mystee Dale and Rashima Jenkins each added 11 points, as Jenkins hit 7-of-8 from the free-throw line.

The Lady Warriors (14-4, 4-1 in the MACJC South Divsion) visit Copiah-Lincoln on Monday.

—Jamie Wachter

Pearl River men 71
East Central 69

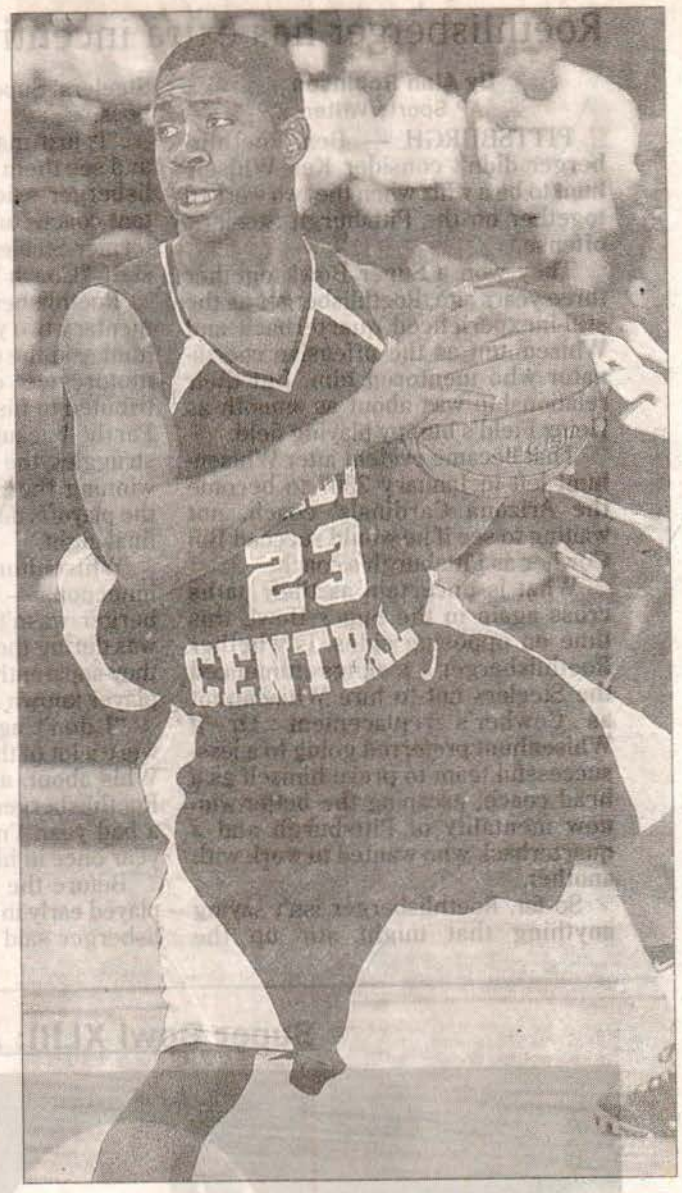
In a tight game, the Wildcats rallied back from a narrow halftime deficit for a home win Thursday night.

Trailing the Warriors 36-35 at the half, Pearl River rebounded in the second half behind 20 points from Randy Perkins and 15 from Donta Smith.

East Central was led by Kenny Thomas' 15 and Josh Luckett's 14. Rico Jones added eight points and nine rebounds for the Warriors.

ECCC (8-10, 2-3 in the MACJC South Division) travel to Copiah-Lincoln on Monday.

—Jamie Wachter



MITCH DEAVER

PULLING IT DOWN

East Central's Josh Luckett hauls in a rebound in the Warriors' 71-69 MACJC South Division loss to Pearl River Thursday in Poplarville.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

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WEEK OF 1-19-09

ECCC splits with Hinds CC

East Central Community College's Lady Warriors captured their fifth straight victory Thursday night by rolling past Hinds Community College 79-59 on the Utica campus.

With the win, the defending Region 23 champions improved to 12-4 overall and 2-1 in the MACJC South Division.

Rashima Jenkins, a 5-9 sophomore forward and product of Airline High School in Bossier City, La., led the Lady Warriors with 13 points. Also scoring were Hannah Lee, 12, and Allison Phillips, 11, both of Leake Academy; Mystee Dale of Choctaw Central, nine; Sha Coleman of Newton County, seven; Lanie Triplett of Scott Central and Danielle Cole of Philadelphia, six each; DeShouri Spates, a product of St. Thomas More High School in Lafayette, La., and Yolanda Jones of Lake, four each; Katherine Taylor of Carthage, three; and Alisha McAfee of Northwest Rankin and Sierra Croft of Newton County, two each.

Regena Grigsby had 11 points to lead the Lady Bulldogs who fell to 4-10.

EC held a 44-31 advantage at the break.

ECCC Photo

Warrior Chucky Curry (44) attempts a shot over Southwest's Austin Holloway (21) during East Central's 73-63 comeback win over the visiting Bears.

In the men's contest, East Central was edged 73-68 by the host Bulldogs and saw its record dip to 7-9 and 1-2.

Kenneth Barlow, a 6-5 freshman guard from Scott Central, led the Warriors with 12 points. Other scorers were Devarus "Scooter" Walker of Newton County, 11; Newton High School product Antonio Grace, nine; Josh Luckett of Carthage, eight; Steve Edwards of Newton, Rico Jones of Forest and Jacob Jordan of Opelousas, La, six each; Chuck Curry of Newton and Rod Lofton of Forest,

See ECCC, page 8A

ECCC

Continued from page 7A

four each; and Kenny Thomas of Jackson Provine, two.

Courtney Nelson had 23 points to lead Hinds.

EC trailed 34-33 at halftime.

The Lady Warriors and Warriors host Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College Tuesday, with women's action set for 6 p.m. followed by the men's game at 8 p.m. in the Brackeen-Wood gym. ECCC squads travel to Pearl River Community College in Poplarville on Thursday. Game times are 5 and 7 p.m.

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

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SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT ✓

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF 1-26-09

ECCC

From Page B1

not going to beat themselves. They whipped us."

Leading by 14 at the break, the Lady Wolves extended their lead to 48-29 on a three-point play by Shareka Hunt with 16:09 remaining.

ECCC got no closer than 12 points the remainder of the contest with five missed free throws in the final 5:27 hindering any comeback possibility.

For the game, the Lady Warriors were 18-of-51 from the floor, including a 2-of-12 showing from 3-point range.

Mystee Dale led ECCC (15-5 overall, 5-2 division) with 19 points. Rashima Jenkins scored 10 points and had nine rebounds and four assists. Hannah Lee scored eight points and DeShouri Spates had seven.

Co-Lin (18-1, 7-0) got 16 points from Rachel Vigers, 15 from Dumas, 11 from Hunt, and 10 from Latoria Holder.

Co-Lin	**72**
ECCC men	**43**

Needing a win to keep their postseason hopes alive, the Warriors promptly fell behind 10-2 in the first 3 minutes, 30 seconds and never caught up.

The Wolves increased their lead to 28-8 with 9:38 to go before halftime. ECCC battled back to within 38-26 at the half.

Trent Hutchin had 23 points for the Wolves in the first half.

Co-Lin scored 25 of the first 34 points of the second half to remove any doubt with a 63-35 lead with 7 minutes remaining.

ECCC (8-12, 2-5) got 10 points each from Josh Luckett and Devarus Walker. Luckett also led the Warriors in rebounds with six.

Co-Lin (10-10, 4-3) had a 36-20 rebounding advantage.

Hutchin finished with 28 points for Co-Lin, making 11-of-22 shots from the floor, including 4-of-12 from 3-point range. Rob Wallace added 18 points and Torrian Sanders scored 13.

APPEARED IN:

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NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

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Juco Basketball: Copiah-Lincoln at East Central

Taking control

Co-Lin women grab two-game MACJC lead

By Marty Stamper
Special to The Star

DECATUR — Barring a total collapse, the Copiah-Lincoln Community College Lady Wolves will wear the MACJC South Division crown in a few weeks.

Co-Lin opened up a two-game lead in the league standings with five games remaining with a 66-54 victory over East Central Community College here Thursday at the Brackeen-Wood Physical Education Building.

Leading 18-17, the Lady Warriors saw Co-Lin close the first half with a 20-5 run.

The Lady Wolves took a 37-23 lead into halftime after making 15-of-32 shots from the floor and all six of their free throws over the first 20 minutes.

Rhonda Dumas scored 13 of her 15 points in the first half for Co-Lin, ranked No. 8 in the NJCAA women's poll.

"They outplayed us tonight," ECCC head coach Bill Smith said. "I didn't think we played very hard the whole game. We didn't shoot the ball. When you shoot 35 percent from the floor, you're not going to beat anybody."

The week was like a mini-tournament for the Lady Warriors as they faced both Jones Junior College and Co-Lin in a three-day span.

"That's the two teams that are going to be the toughest in the South Division," Smith said. "Us three are battling it out. We've just got to take care of our next four ball games and see what happens for the state tournament.

"We didn't play with the kind of intensity we played with Monday night against Jones. Co-Lin is the type team that if you don't play up to your best, they're

See ECCC
Page B3

PAULA MERRITT/THE MERIDIAN STAR

ATTACKING THE BASKET

East Central Community College's Hannah Lee looks for a layup against Copiah-Lincoln Community College on Thursday night.

www.meridianstar.com

Junior College Basketball: Jones County at East Central

Warriors' wild night

East Central women win in last minute; men fall in overtime to Jones

By Marty Stamper
Special to The Star

DECATUR — Leaving Mystee Dale unattended is never wise, especially with the game on the line.

Dale buried a wide open 3-point basket from the top of the key with 10 seconds left to propel East Central Community College's Lady Warriors to an 80-77 MACJC South Division victory over Jones Junior College Monday night.

"I wasn't sure because we still had around 20 seconds on the clock and the could have come back, but I just took it anyway," Dale said of her game-winner.

Jones had just pulled even at 77 on a putback basket by Consuela Tucker with 21.9 seconds left.

"We could have called time out and drawn up a play, but I just decided to let it go," said ECCC women's coach Bill Smith. "She got a good look at it and knocked it down. That's what players do. She had a pretty good night."

Dale finished with a game-high 34 points. She also had seven assists and five rebounds.

ECCC also got 16 points and seven boards from Hannah Lee, 11 points and nine rebounds from Rashima Jenkins, seven points and four assists from DeShouri Spates, and eight rebounds from Allison Phillips.

"Everybody that played did a good job," Smith said. "We could have panicked when they came back from being down 10 and we went down two, but the girls just hung on and did a good job the last minute and a half. That was the difference in the ballgame."

Using a tenacious press in the final minute of the first half, ECCC forced two straight turnovers to turn a 38-36 lead into a 45-38 halftime advantage.

"We caught them off-guard a little bit and got two quick steals and two easy buckets and kinda got a little momentum going into halftime," Smith said. "They started the second half with the momentum after we turned it over three times in a row."

Jones pulled even at 45 less than 2 minutes into the second half.

The Lady Warriors stretched back out to a 61-51 advantage with 10:18 remaining when Dale hit Jenkins for back-to-back layups.

Jones got 19 points from TeAnna Carter, 15 from Ashley Lee, and 11 from Erica Moore.

"We were both tied for second (in the division), so it was definitely a big game for both of us," Smith said. "It was just a good ballgame out of both teams."

PAULA MERRITT / THE MERIDIAN STAR

GOTTA GET IT BACK

East Central Community College's Alisha McAfee tries to gain ball control after colliding with Jones County Junior College's Demara Bolton Monday night in Decatur.

PAULA MERRITT / THE MERIDIAN STAR

IN THE PAINT

East Central Community College's Mystee Dale tries to drive to the hoop against Jones County Junior College's Demara Bolton Monday night in Decatur.

ECCC hosts league-leading Copiah-Lincoln on Thursday.

At the midway point of the 2008-09 basketball season, the Lady Warriors are 5-1 in the league and 15-4 overall. Jones fel to 4-2 and 13-5. Co-Lin entered the night with a 5-0 league mark.

Jones County men	**98**
East Central	**96**

Brian Singleton drove the lan for the game-winning basket at the horn as Jones took the men's con test in overtime.

The league-leading Bobcats improved to 6-0 in the division and 16-2 overall.

ECCC fell to 2-4 and 8-11.

Brandon Wilson was 18-of-21 from the floor in leading Jones with a game-high 41 points. Singleton and Trenton Marshall both scored 15 with Todd McDonald adding 11.

ECCC got 25 points from Josh Luckett, 19 from Scooter Walker, 15 from Kenneth Barlow, and 12 from Jacob Jordan.

See **ECCC**
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WEEK OF 1-26-09

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DRIVING TO THE GOAL

East Central Community College's Rashima Jenkins looks to drive inside against Copiah-Lincoln Community College on Thursday night.

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Dale lifts EC past Jones County; Warriors fall in OT

Monday night MACJC South Division rivals East Central Community College and Jones County Junior College had their games decided on last-second shots.

In the women's contest, sophomore Mystee Dale drained a three-pointer with 9.1 seconds remaining, giving the Lady Warriors an 80-77 victory over the visiting Lady Bobcats.

The Warriors were on the wrong end of last-second heroics, however, as Brian Singleton of Jones drove through the lane for a buzzer-beating lay-in as time expired in overtime, and the division leading Bobcats came away with a stunning 98-96 decision.

Dale, a 5-8 guard and former Choctaw Central High School standout, pumped in 34 points for the EC women, who improved to 15-4 overall and 5-1 in division play, while Jones dropped to 13-5 and 4-2. The win also provided ECCC head coach Bill Smith with his 500th career victory.

In addition to Dale, other EC scorers were Hannah Lee of Leake Academy, 16; Rashima Jenkins, a product of Airline High School in Bossier City, La., 11; DeShouri Spates, of St. Thomas More High School in Lafayette, La., seven; Alisha McAfee of Northwest Rankin, five; Danielle Cole of Philadelphia, four; and Allison Phillips of Leake Academy, three. Jenkins led in rebounds with nine and Phillips had eight.

East Central, which jumped out to an early 19-6 lead, held a 45-38 advantage at the break. Jones battled back and tied the contest at 77-77 with 22 seconds remaining when Tucker scored off an offensive rebound. Dale gave EC the lead for good with her trey from near the top of the key.

In the men's contest, the Warriors seemed destined to win after sophomore Jacob Jordan of Opelousas, La., connected on one of two free-throw attempts and gave EC an 82-78 advantage with 13 seconds remaining.

But Brandon Wilson of Jones responded with a three-point play, as he scored and drew a foul with 7.2 seconds remaining to make it 82-81. Warrior Kenneth Barlow, a Scott Central product, was fouled with 6.8 seconds remaining and made one of two free throws for an 83-81 advantage. The Bobcats put their fate in Singleton who drove the court and made the game-tying layup forcing the overtime period.

The Bobcats took control in the extra period and jumped out to a 94-89 lead with 2:22 left. EC's Devarus "Scooter" Walker, a Newton County High School product, later tied t contest at 94-94 on his two fr throws with 37.2 seconds r maining. After both tean turned the ball over on consec tive possessions, Jones got t ball and the stage was set f Singleton's game-winning dri to the basket.

Josh Luckett of Cartha had 25 points to lead EC. Al scoring were Walker, 19; Ba low, 15; Jordon, 12; Rico Jor of Forest, nine; Antonio Gra of Newton, eight; Rod Loft of Forest, five; Kenny Thon of Jackson Provine, tw Chucky Curry of Newton, or

WEEK OF 1-26-09

ECCC sweeps Gulf Coast

By Marty Stamper
Appeal Sports Editor

The East Central Community College Lady Warriors picked up wins over Gulf Coast and Pearl River last week to improve to 14-4.

The EC men (8-10) beat Gulf Coast and lost by two points at Pearl River.

EC hosts Copiah-Lincoln Thursday with area high school students being admitted free of charge for the annual "Be Our Guest Night" activities.

EC women	**70**
Gulf Coast	**58**

After Rashima Jenkins gave EC its first lead of the second half at 59-58 with three minutes remaining, the Lady Warriors closed the January 19 contest at Decatur with an 11-0 run.

EC improved to 13-4 overall and 3-1 in division play. Gulf Coast fell to 7-11 and 1-4.

EC trailed 33-24 at halftime.

Mystee Dale led EC with 19 points and seven rebounds. Jenkins had 13 points and 13 boards. DeShouri Spates had 13 points, while Allison Phillips had eight and Danielle Cole scored seven.

Gulf Coast was led by Savannah Palomarez with 12 points.

EC men	**78**
Gulf Coast	**68**

The Warriors jumped out to a 42-24 halftime lead in whipping the Bulldogs on January 19 at Decatur.

Rico Jones led EC with 24 points. The Warriors improved to 8-9 overall and 2-2 in league play. Scooter Walker, Kenneth Barlow, and Jacob Jordan added 10 points each. Steve Edwards had nine.

Gulf Coast (9-7, 3-2) was led by Justin Ray's 34 points.

EC women	**68**
Pearl River	**57**

The Lady Warriors picked up their seventh-straight win Thursday at Poplarville.

In improving to 14-4 overall and 4-1 in division play, the Lady Warriors got 16 points from DeShouri Spates, 11 each from Mystee Dale and Rashima Jenkins, nine from Sha Coleman, eight from Hannah Lee, six from Allison Phillips, and five from Danielle Cole.

Pearl River took a 39-34 lead into halftime before falling to 1-15 overall and 1-4 in league play. The Lady Wildcats led by as much as 40-29 in the second half before EC scored 17 of the next 22 points to go up 46-45 with 13 minutes to play.

Courtney Lacoste had 19 points to lead PRCC.

Pearl River	**71**
EC men	**69**

The Warriors had ball possession in the game's final 15 seconds but could not pull off a shot in losing Thursday at Poplarville.

EC trailed 67-56 before going on a 13-4 run to close the game.

The Warriors were led by Kenny Thomas with 15 points. Josh Luckett scored 14, Rico Jones and Scooter Walker both had eight, Steve Edwards scored seven, and Kenneth Barlow had six.

EC dropped to 8-10 overall and 2-3 in the division.

Randy Perkins had 20 points to lead Pearl River as the Wildcats improved to 12-5 overall and 3-2 in the division.

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WEEK OF 1-26-09

East Central C.C. Basketball

ECCC PHOTO

ECCC WARRIORS

The East Central Community College men's basketball team for the 2008-09 season includes, seated from left: Devarus "Scooter" Walker (3), a product of Newton County High School; Asmar Capers (10), Bridgewater-Raritan, N.J.; Rico Jones (11), Forest; Antonio Grace (15), Newton; James Starks (20), Meridian; Jacob Jordan (21), Opelousas, La.; Rod Lofton (22), Forest; and Josh Luckett (23), Carthage. Standing from left are Cornelius Gilleylen, assistant coach; Darius Walker, student assistant, Newton County; Andre Pitchford (25) and Kenny Thomas (31), both of Jackson Provine; Joseph Thompson (32), Morton; Steve Edwards (34), Newton; Chucky Curry (44), Newton; and Maurice Bowie, head coach. Not pictured are Jacob Martin (54) of Lafayette, La., and student assistant William Flowers of Newton.

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ECCC PHOTO

ECCC LADY WARRIORS

Ready for another championship season are the above members of the 2008-09 East Central Community College women's basketball team. First row, from left, are student assistants Kanisha Warnsley, a product of Newton County High School; Courtney James, Magee; Precious Triplett, Louisville; and Michaela Lee, Nanih Waiya. Second row, from left, are Deshouri Spates (4), St. Thomas Moore HS, Lafayette, La.; Yolanda Jones (10), Lake; Sha Coleman (11), Newton County; Rashima Jenkins (12), Airline HS, Bossier City, La; Allison Phillips (15), Leake Academy; Lanie Triplett (20), Scott Central; and Mystee Dale (21), Choctaw Central. Standing from left are Kristin Chaney, assistant coach; Sierra Croft (22), Newton County; Alisha McAfee (23), Northwest Rankin; Danielle Cole (24), Philadelphia; Hannah Lee (25), Leake Academy; Alisha Griffin (32), Kemper County; Katherine Taylor (55), Carthage; and Bill Smith, head coach. Not pictured are student assistant William Flowers of Newton and statistician Candy Wade of Raleigh. The Lady Warriors are the defending Region 23 champions.

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WEEK OF 1-26-09

ECCC splits with Jones JC

SPECIAL TO THE TIMES

DECATUR—A packed Brackeen-Wood gym witnessed two exciting games Monday night between South Division rivals East Central Community College and Jones County Junior College, each of which was decided on last-second shots.

In the women's contest, sophomore Mystee Dale drained a three-pointer with 9.1 seconds remaining, giving the Lady Warriors an 80-77 victory over the visiting Lady Bobcats.

The Warriors were on the wrong end of last-second heroics, however, as Brian Singleton drove through the lane for a buzzer-beating lay-in as time expired in overtime, and the division leading Bobcats came away with a stunning 98-96 decision.

Dale, a 5-8 guard, pumped in 34 points for the EC women, who improved to 15-4 overall and 5-1 in division play, while Jones dropped to 13-5 and 4-2. The win also provided ECCC head coach Bill Smith with his 500th career victory.

The Lady Warriors are second in the league standings and await Thursday's showdown with division leader Copiah-Lincoln Community College getting under way at 6 p.m. in Decatur. The ninth-ranked Lady Wolves are 17-1 and 6-0.

In the men's contest, the Warriors seemed destined to notch the key division battle in regulation when sophomore Jacob Jordan connected on one of two free-throw attempts and gave EC an 82-78 advantage with 13 seconds remaining. But Brandon Wilson of Jones responded with a three-point play, as he scored on a drive to the basket and drew a foul with 7.2 seconds remaining to make it 82-81.

Warrior Kenneth Barlow, a Scott Central product, was fouled with 6.8 seconds remaining and made one of two free throws for an 83-81 advantage.

Scorers from Scott County included Barlow, 15; Rico Jones of Forest, nine; Rod Lofton of Forest, five.

The Warriors entertain Co-Lin Thursday at 8 p.m.

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WEEK OF 2-2-09

Late Juco Basketball

Southwest sweeps aside ECCC squads

from school reports

Heavily guarded and unable to make a game-winning shot from beneath the goal in the final moments of play, Mystee Dale and her East Central Community College teammates dropped a rare second-straight decision Thursday night, falling 67-66 to the Southwest Mississippi Community College Lady Bears on the Summit campus.

The Warriors were also unsuccessful and fell 75-65 to the Bears.

Dale, a former Choctaw Central High School standout, and fellow sophomore Rashima Jenkins had 17 points each to lead East Central, which dropped to 15-6 overall and 5-3 in the MACJC South Division.

Octavia Bearden had 17 points to lead the Lady Bears, who improved to 10-8 and 3-5.

EC trailed 33-29 at the break.

The Lady Warriors fell 66-54 to division leader Copiah-Lincoln Community College on Jan. 29, snapping an eight-game winning streak.

In the men's contest, Devarus "Scooter" Walker, a Newton County High School product, had 14 points to the lead the Warriors, whose record stands at 8-13 and 2-6. Josh Luckett added 13, while Rico Jones had 12 and former Newton High School standout Antonio Grace finished with 11.

Paul Hilliard had 27 points to lead Southwest, which improved to 3-16 and 1-7.

The Bears held a 33-29 advantage at the break.

ECCC hosts Hinds Community College on Monday night, with the women's game at 6 p.m. followed by the men's contest at 8 p.m.

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WEEK OF 2-2-09

EC women struggle in showdown with Co-Lin

By Marty Stamper
Appeal Sports Editor

The East Central Community College Lady Warriors went 1-1 on the hardwood last week and brought a 15-5 record into this week.

The EC men dropped both of their games last week to fall to 8-12.

After Monday's open date, the EC teams return to action Thursday at Summit against Southwest Mississippi Community College. EC hosts Hinds Community College on Monday, Feb. 9. Game times are 6 and 8 p.m.

EC women	**80**
Jones	**77**

Sophomore Mystee Dale buried a wide-open 3-pointer from the top of the key with just under 10 seconds remaining to give the Lady Warriors the three-point win at Decatur on January 26.

Dale scored 34 points as EC improved to 15-4 overall and 5-1 in division play. The Lady Warriors also got 16 points from Hannah Lee, 11 from Rashima Jenkins, seven from DeShouri Spates, and five from Alisha McAfee.

TeAnna Carter led Jones (13-5, 4-2) with 20 points.

EC led 45-38 at halftime only to have Jones draw even at 77 with 22 seconds left.

Jones	**98**
EC men	**96**

Brian Singleton's lay-in at the horn gave the Bobcats the overtime win on January 26 at Decatur.

EC led 82-78 with 13 seconds left in regulation but was unable to hold on.

The Bobcats took control in the extra period and jumped out to a 94-89 lead with 2:22 remaining.

EC's Scooter Walker tied the contest at 94-94 on a pair of two free throws with 37.2 seconds remaining to set the stage for Singleton.

Josh Luckett scored 25 points to lead EC (8-11, 2-4). Scooter Walker scored 19 points, Kenneth Barlow had 15, Jacob Jordan 12, Rico Jones, nine, and Antonio Grace eight.

Brandon Wilson racked up 41 points for Jones (16-2, 6-0). Jones led 42-41 at halftime.

Co-Lin	**66**
EC women	**54**

After taking an 18-17 lead in the first half, the Lady Warriors were outscored 49-36 the remainder of Thursday's contest in the battle for first place in the MACJC South Division.

East Central freshman Hannah Lee shoots for two of her 16 points in the Lady Warriors' 80-77 win over Jones.
Photo by Marty Stamper

Co-Lin took a 37-23 lead into halftime. The Lady Wolves, ranked eighth nationally, led by as many as 19 points in the second half with EC unable to get any closer than 12.

Mystee Dale again led EC (15-5, 5-2) in scoring with 19 points. She also had five rebounds. Rashima Jenkins had 10 points and led in rebounds with nine. Hannah Lee scored eight points and DeShouri Spates tossed in seven. Allison Phillips and Danielle Cole both scored five points.

Co-Lin (18-1, 7-0) was led by Rachel Vigers' 16 points.

Co-Lin	**72**
EC men	**43**

The Wolves jumped out to a 28-8 lead in crushing the Warriors Thursday at Decatur.

EC (8-12, 2-5) got 10 points each from Scooter Walker and Josh Luckett. Luckett also had six boards. Rod Lofton and Antonio Grace added six points apiece.

Co-Lin (10-10, 4-3) was paced by Trent Hutchin's 28 points.

Co-Lin led 38-26 at halftime.

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WEEK OF 2-7-07

EC squads spanked by visiting Co-Lin

An open date could not come at a better time for the East Central Community College's basketball squads who are licking their wounds following setbacks to Copiah-Lincoln Community College teams Thursday night in Decatur.

The anticipated showdown between the top two women's teams in the MACJC South Division did not live up to its billing as the nationally-ranked Lady Wolves led throughout most of the contest and claimed an easier-than-expected 66-54 win over the Lady Warriors.

EC, which fell to 15-5 overall and 5-2 in league play, led only once in the division battle, when Hannah Lee's layup with just eight minutes remaining in first-half action gave the home team an 18-17 advantage. The eighth-ranked Lady Wolves, who improved to 18-1 and lead the division at 6-0, closed out the first half on a 20-5 run and had a comfortable 37-23 lead at the break.

Co-Lin extended its lead to 48-29 with 16:09 remaining. The Lady Warriors trimmed the deficit to 63-51 with about three minutes left but could get no closer.

Following the disappointing loss, Lady Warrior head coach Bill Smith, who recently observed his 500th career victory, gave credit to the Lady Wolves.

"They outplayed us tonight," Smith said. "I don't think we played very hard the whole game. We didn't shoot the ball. When you shoot 35 percent from the floor, you're not going to beat anybody."

With the loss, EC and Jones County are tied for second in the South at 5-2. Gulf Coast is 3-4 followed by Southwest at 2-4. Hinds and Pearl River are each 1-6.

Smith said EC's focus is on the remaining division contests with Southwest, Hinds, Gulf Coast, Pearl River and Jones and qualifying for post-season play.

"We've just got to take care of business with our remaining games and see what happens for the state tournament," Smith stated.

Choctaw Central High School product Mystee Dale led EC in scoring with 19 points. She was also credited with five rebounds. Rashima Jenkins, of Airline High School in Bossier City, La., contributed 10 points and led in rebounds with nine. Also scoring were Lee, a Leake Academy product of Philadelphia, eight; DeShouri Spates, of St. Thomas More H.S. in Lafayette, La., seven; and Allison Phillips of Leake Academy and Danielle Cole of Philadelphia, five each.

The Lady Warriors were 18-of-51 (35.3 percent) from the floor, and connected on just two-of-12 attempts from three-point range. EC made 16 of 24 free throws (66.7 percent).

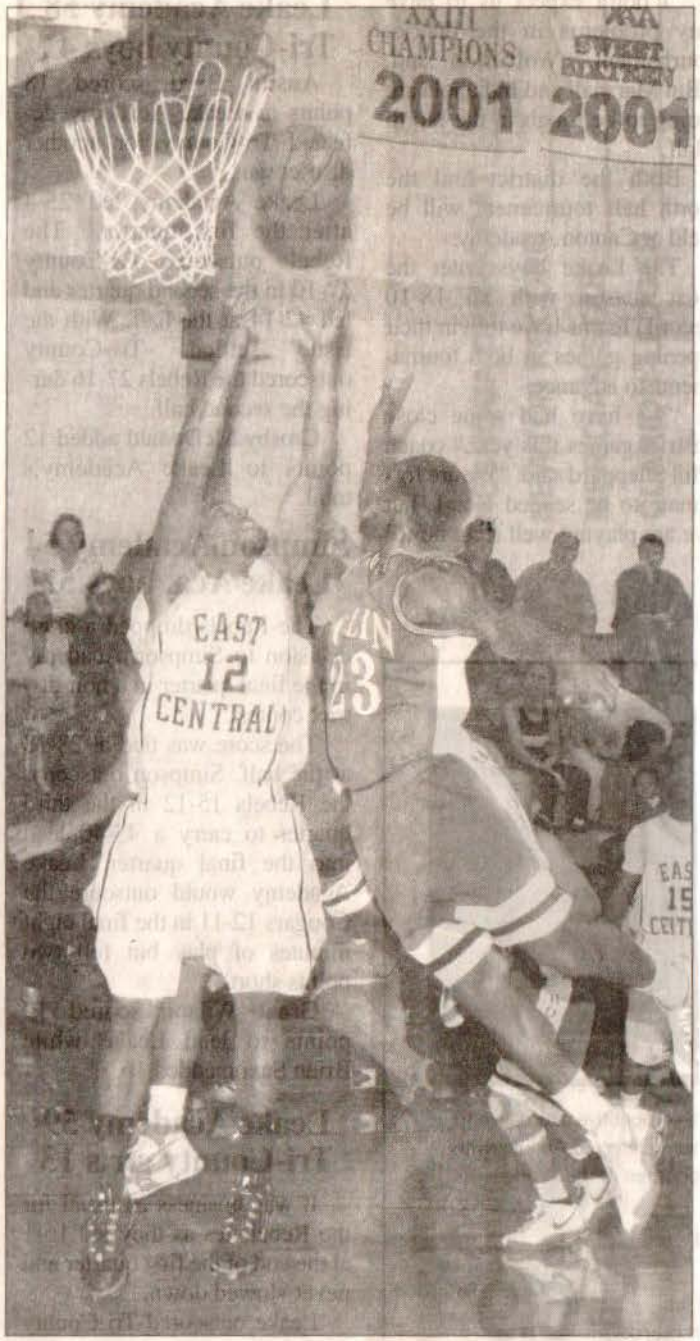
Rachel Vigers led Co-Lin with 16 points.

The Lady Wolves made 24-of-58 (41.4 percent) shots from the floor. They connected on two-of-three treys (66.7 percent) and were 16-of-18 (88.9) from the free-throw line.

In the men's game, EC struggled throughout the division matchup and the Wolves cruised to an easy 72-43 victory.

With the loss, EC dropped to 8-12 overall and 2-5 in the division under third-year head coach Maurice Bowie. Co-Lin improved to 10-10 and 4-3. Jones County leads the South at 7-0 followed by Gulf Coast at 5-2. Co-Lin is tied with Pearl River and EC and Hinds have the same records. Southwest is winless at 0-6.

Josh Luckett of Carthage and Devarus "Scooter" Walker, a Newton County High School product, led EC with 10 points each. Luckett led in rebounds with six. Also scoring were Rod Lofton of Forest and Newton High School product Antonio Grace of Meridian, six each; Rico Jones of Forest, five; Kenneth Barlow of Scott Central, four; and Chucky Curry of Newton, two.



EC Photo

Scott Central product Kenneth Barlow (12) and Co-Lin's Trent Hutchin (23) battle for the rebound during the Warriors' 72-43 setback to the visiting Wolves Thursday night.

SPIRIT OF MORTON

WEEK OF 2-16-09

Junior College Basketball Roundup

Missed free throw leaves ECCC just short

from staff reports

With 3.4 seconds remaining and a chance to tie the game, Kenneth Barlow missed 1-of-2 free throws as East Central Community College came up just short in the Warriors' upset bid of Pearl River Community College.

ECCC (8-16, 2-9 MACJC South Division) erased a seven-point halftime deficit to tie the game at 70 apiece before the Wildcats' Timothy Ware made a layup at put Pearl River on top for good with 50 seconds on the clock. The Wildcats held on to win 72-71.

Barlow finished with a dozen points for the Warriors as did Rico Jones. Kenny Thomas led the way with 14.

— *Chris Brennaman*

East Central women	**75**
Pearl River	**45**

Mystee Dale led the Lady Warriors with 15 points in the win over visiting Pearl River.

Rashima Jenkins added 13 for ECCC, which improved to 17-7 overall and 7-4 in the division.

East Central travels to Jones County Thursday.

— *Chris Brennaman*

Jones women	**92**
Meridian	**80**

Meridian (19-7) was led by former Meridian High standout Tiara Parker, who scored 31 points, while Sharda'e Johnson added 16 as the Lady Eagles fell to Jones by 12.

— *from school reports*

Jones men	**77**
Meridian	**72**

Meridian (14-10) got 26 points from Otis Williams and a dozen each from Mario Luckett and Travis Thompson in the five-point loss to Jones.

— *from school reports*

East Mississippi	**68**
Holmes women	**60**

The Lady Lions of East Mississippi (19-4, 10-1 MACJC North Division) extended their current winning streak to nine consecutive games with a 68-60 divisional road win over Holmes Monday night at Frank Branch Coliseum.

Sophomore forward Angelique Burtts led the way with 26 points, while freshman Martika Hull of Southeast Lauderdale recorded her seventh double-double of the campaign with 19 points and 12 rebounds.

— *from school reports*

Holmes	**68**
East Mississippi	**63**

In getting swept by the Holmes Bulldogs on the year, coach Mark White's Lions fell to 14-9 overall and are now tied with Holmes for second place behind divisional leader Itawamba in the North Division standings.

EMCC's 14 wins in 2008-09 are the most for the Lions since posting a 15-11 overall mark during the 1999-2000 season.

Scooba Tech hosts Northeast Mississippi Thursday.

— *from school reports*

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WEEK OF 2-16-09

EC women clinch playoff berth

By Marty Stamper
Appeal Sports Editor

The East Central Community College Lady Warriors went 1-1 on the hardwood last week, beating Hinds 94-59 and falling 68-66 to Mississippi Gulf Coast.

The Lady Warriors (17-7) wrapped up a berth in the MACJC State Tournament with a 75-45 rout of Pearl River Monday.

The EC men lost both of their games as they fell to 8-15 entering the final week of their season. The Warriors are eliminated from postseason competition.

After hosting Pearl River Monday, the EC teams wrap up their regular season Thursday at Jones.

EC women	**94**
Hinds	**59**

The Lady Warriors hammered Hinds in the February 9 contest at Decatur to improve to 16-6 overall and 6-3 in division play.

Danielle Cole led EC with 20 points. Rashima Jenkins scored 17, Allison Phillips had nine, Hannah Lee, Mystee Dale, and Yolanda Jones each scored eight; Alisha McAfee added seven, and DeShourie Spates and Sierra Croft both had six.

Tiara Buckley had nine points to lead Hinds (4-18, 1-8).

The Lady Warriors took a 54-28 lead into halftime.

Hinds	**63**
EC men	**60**

The Warriors dropped to 8-14 overall and 2-7 in the division with the February 9 loss at Decatur.

EC led 31-29 at halftime, but was unable to hang on for the win.

Josh Luckett led EC with 13 points. Kenneth Barlow scored 12, Steve Edwards of Newton and Devarus "Scooter" Walker of Newton County both had eight, Rico Jones and Rod Lofton added six each, and Chucky Curry of Newton had four.

Hinds (8-14, 3-6) was led by Ananza Richardson's 14 points.

Gulf Coast	**68**
EC women	**66**

The Lady Warriors were outscored 33-27 in the second half of Thursday's game at Perkinston as they fell to 16-7 overall and 6-4 in the division.

Mystee Dale led EC with 20 points. Danielle Cole scored 11, Rashima Jenkins had 10, Allison Phillips added eight, Hannah Lee scored seven, and Alisha McAfee scored six.

Gulf Coast (11-13, 5-6) got 17 points from Savannah Palomarez and 15 from Kiara Johnson.

EC led 39-35 at halftime.

Gulf Coast	**79**
EC men	**68**

The Warriors fell to 8-15 overall and 2-8 in the division with Thursday's loss at Perkinston.

Kenneth Barlow led EC with 21 points. Josh Luckett scored 18 and Rico Jones added 11.

Gulf Coast (15-8, 8-3) got 26 points from Cordell Pope, 15 from Justin Ray, and 14 from Isaiah Jackson.

ECCC sophomore Scooter Walker shoots in the lane against Hinds.
Photo by Marty Stamper

MACJC South Division Standings

Through Feb. 18

Women	Div.	All
Copiah-Lincoln	10-1	21-2
Jones	8-3	18-6
East Central	7-4	17-7
Southwest	6-5	13-8
Gulf Coast	5-7	11-14
Pearl River	2-9	2-21
Hinds	1-10	4-20

Men	Div.	All
Jones	9-2	20-4
Gulf Coast	9-3	16-8
Pearl River	8-3	18-6
Copiah-Lincoln	7-4	13-11
Hinds	3-8	8-16
East Central	2-9	8-16
Southwest	1-10	3-18

The top four teams in each division advance to the MACJC State Tournament.

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WEEK OF 2-16-09

Juco Roundup

Warriors can't close out JCJC

from combined reports

Jones County Junior College led only one time in the second half of its game with East Central Community College on Thursday night.

Brian Singleton's free throw with 1.3 seconds remaining gave JCJC a thrilling, 86-85 victory over the Warriors before a loud crowd in Bobcat Gym on Sophomore Night.

Singleton's free throw capped a furious rally and gave the No. 20 Bobcats their first South Division title since 2003-04.

East Central (8-17, 2-10) led by as many as nine in the first half and was up 49-45 at intermission. The Warriors were up 79-65 with 8:16 left and 83-71 with 4:37 remaining, but could not close the deal.

Jones tied the game at 85-85 on Singleton's layup with 58.2 seconds left. After the Warriors missed a shot, the Bobcats got the rebound and called time with 19.6 seconds to play.

They spread the court and got the ball to Singleton, who drove the lane and drew the foul with 1.3 seconds to play. He missed the first shot, but hit the second one.

After a timeout, the Warriors got the ball to Steve Edwards, who missed everything on a half court shot attempt.

Jones, 21-4 overall and 10-2 in the division, got 23 points from Trenton Marshall, 15 from Danny Bolton and 12 each from Singleton and Brandon Wilson.

Kenny Thomas had 20 for the Warriors, while Antonio Grace added 19, Kenneth Barlow had 15 and Edwards had 12. ECCC ends the season at 8-17 and 2-10.

— *from school reports*

Jones County women	**78**
East Central	**54**

The issue was never in doubt as the Lady Bobcats dominated from the start.

Jones scored the game's first seven points, led 14-3 just over 4 minutes into the game and took its longest lead of the first half at intermission, 41-23.

ECCC (17-8, 7-5) cut the lead to 49-38 with 15:24 left, but that was as close as they would get. The final score matched the largest margin of the evening for the Lady Bobcats.

TeAnna Carter paced Jones, 19-6 and 9-3, with 17 points. Ashley Lee added 15, Demara Bolton had 13 and Brittany Leverett had 11.

Former Choctaw Central standout Mystee Dale had 17 for the Lady Warriors, 17-8 and 7-5. DeShouri Spates added 12 and Allison Phillips had 10.

— *from school reports*

EMCC women	**76**
Northeast Mississippi	**61**

The Lady Lions clinched the top seed in next week's MACJC tournament by closing out Northeast in the regular season finale Thursday night in Scooba.

EMCC, who improved to 20-4 and 11-1 in the North Division, will face Southwest Mississippi in the state tourney Monday at Jones County.

In winning their 10th straight, the Lady Lions got 18 points, five rebounds, seven assists and six steals from Angelique Burtts. Jasmine Abrams added a double-double with 12 points and 10 rebounds, while former Kemper County standout Javitia Eades scored 11.

— *Jamie Wachter*

EMCC men	**81**
Northeast Mississippi	**53**

The EMCC men closed out the regular season in style Thursday night, stretching an 11-point halftime lead to as many as 33 before settling for the 28-point romp.

Woodie Howard led four Lions in double figures with 19 points as he hit his first seven shots. Coco Ware added 14 points — 12 coming in the first half — and eight rebounds, while Cataurius Taylor scored 12. Darian Donald notched a double-double with 10 points and 10 rebounds — all coming in the second half.

EMCC (15-9, 8-4 in the MACJC North Divison) will play Tuesday in the state tournament, but the Lions seed depended on the outcome of Holmes Community College's game Thursday night. EMCC will be either the No. 2 or No. 2 seed.

— *Jamie Wachter*

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WEEK OF 3/2/08

EC women fall in state opener

By Marty Stamper
Appeal Sports Editor

The late-season slide continued for the East Central Community College Lady Warriors in the MACJC State Tournament at Ellisville last week as they were sent packing with a 74-69 first-round loss to Itawamba Community College.

The Lady Warriors rallied from a 15-point deficit to take a six-point lead in the second half, but were unable to hold on as they dropped to 17-9.

Despite the loss, the Lady Warriors advanced to the Region 23 Tournament this week at Mississippi College.

EC, the defending Region 23 champion, drew a tough opening-round assignment in Tuesday's contest with the 24-3 Lady Wolves of Copiah-Lincoln Community College. Co-Lin won the South Division regular-season title and finished state runner-up to Jones.

The EC-Co-Lin winner will face the Meridian-Itawamba winner in the semifinals Wednesday at 8 p.m.

"We've got one more game for sure, and it's win or go home," Lady Warriors head coach Bill Smith said. "Last season, we lost the first game of the state tournament and came back won the region, so we've got something to base it on."

In the state tournament, Itawamba led the entire first half and took a 38-27 lead into halftime. The Lady Warriors made just 28.6 percent of their field goals in the first half.

EC rallied in the second half behind 11 points from Mystee Dale and took a 56-50 lead with 5:24 to play.

However, Itawamba outscored EC 24-13 down the stretch behind 11 points from Sanqueeta Meardith to improve to 21-5.

Dale led EC with 18 points. She also had five rebounds and four steals.

The Lady Warriors also got 13 points apiece from Hannah Lee and DeShouri Spates, 12 points and 12 rebounds from Rashima Jenkins, six points from Alisha McAfee, and five points from Danielle Cole.

Meardith led the Lady Indians with a game-high 20 points, including a trio of 3-point baskets. Courtney Cannon added 18 points for ICC with Birdie Bowens adding 10 points and 10 rebounds.

MACJC South Division Standings

Through March 2

Women	Div.	All
Copiah-Lincoln	11-1	24-3
Jones	9-3	22-6
East Central	7-5	17-9
Southwest	7-5	14-9
Gulf Coast	5-7	11-14
Pearl River	2-10	2-22
Hinds	1-11	4-21

Men	Div.	All
Jones	10-2	24-5
Gulf Coast	9-3	17-9
Pearl River	9-3	20-7
Copiah-Lincoln	7-5	15-14
Hinds	4-8	9-16
East Central	2-10	8-17
Southwest	1-11	3-19

The Region 23 winners advance to their respective national tournaments in Kansas.

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WEEK OF 3/2/09

Lady Warriors fall to Itawamba in first-round state tourney action

The East Central Lady Warriors were to enter play in the Region 23 Tournament Tuesday when they took on Co-Lin.

The tournament is being played at Mississippi College in Clinton.

The Lady Warriors were eliminated early in the State Tournament last week which was held at Jones County Junior College.

East Central Community College's Lady Warriors rallied from an early 15-point deficit to take a 56-50 lead over the Itawamba Community College women with 5:24 remaining, but the Lady Indians finished the contest on a 24-13 run and claimed a 74-69 decision last Monday.

Choctaw Central product Mystee Dale led East Central with 18 points. Also scoring in double figures were Hannah Lee of Leake Academy and DeShouri Spates of St. Thomas More High School 13 each; and Rashima Jenkins, a product of Airline High School 12. Jenkins led in rebounds with 12.

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WEEK OF 3/2/09

From Page B1

think we won either one of those," East Central coach Bill Smith said. "They have a good squad.

"They're not ranked ninth in the country for nothing. We gave them a heck of a battle."

The Lady Warriors (18-9) certainly didn't win the rebounding battle in the first half where they allowed Co-Lin 10 offensive rebounds, leading to 11 second-chance points as the Lady Wolves opened up a 29-20 lead with 4 minutes remaining in the period. ECCC also turned the ball over 25 times in the game.

East Central, though, hung close behind Leake Academy product Hannah Lee. The 5-foot-11 freshman, who entered the game averaging 8.5 points per game, hit two 3-pointers on her way to 10 points in the first half. Lee's first trey gave the Lady Warriors their first lead at 5-4 a little more than a minute into the game. Her second 3-point basket tied the game at 14 with 9:14 left.

"She carried us in the first half," Smith added.

Co-Lin, though, responded with a 6-0 run and would never trail again, for East Central went 6 minutes between buckets before a Mystee Dale layup with 28 seconds remaining in the half ended the drought.

The late bucket sparked Dale, the former Choctaw Central star, who scored 15 of her team-leading 19 points in the second half.

With Dale leading the way, the Lady Warriors battled back often in the second half. However, ECCC could never dig themselves back out. When Dale pulled ECCC within 39-38 just six minutes into the half, Co-Lin responded with a 3-pointer from Latoria Holder to jumpstart a 6-0 run. After, the Lady Warriors pulled back within 2 on a trey from Lee, Holder again had the answer to give the Lady Wolves a 51-46 lead with 5:41 remaining. The 3-pointer prompted a 10-0 run to give Co-Lin it's largest lead at 58-46 with just more than 2 minutes left.

"I thought we played hard," Smith added. "We did a good job of not giving up. We had a couple of chances there to tie it up, but never did get over the hump."

Holder, who nailed three 3-pointers in the second half scored 15 points, while Shareka Hunt led the Lady Wolves with 22.

Ninth-ranked Copiah-Lincoln proves too much for ECCC's ladies

By Jamie Wachter
sports writer

CLINTON — The third time was not the charm for the East Central Community College women's basketball team Tuesday night at the NJCAA Region 23 Tournament.

After two close losses to No. 9 Copiah-Lincoln in the regular season, the Lady Warriors fell in another tight battle, 68-63, at Mississippi College's A. E. Wood Coliseum.

The Lady Wolves (25-3) advance to the semifinal round, where they will face Meridian Community College at 8 p.m. today. The Lady Eagles defeated Itawamba 87-79 on Tuesday night.

"We knew we had to limit turnovers and win the rebounding battle and I don't

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WEEK OF 2-9-09

ECCC squads fall at Southwest

By STEVE SWOGETINSKY
Sports Editor

Heavily guarded and unable to make a game-winning shot from beneath the goal in the final moments of play, Mystee Dale and her East Central Community College teammates dropped a rare second-straight decision Thursday night, falling 67-66 to the Southwest Mississippi Community College Lady Bears on the Summit campus.

The Warriors were also unsuccessful and fell 75-65 to the Bears.

Dale, a former Choctaw Central High School standout, and fellow sophomore Rashima Jenkins, a product of Airline High School in Bossier City, La., had 17 points each to lead East Central, which dropped 15-6 overall and 5-3 in the MACJC South Division. Also scoring were DeShouri Spates, a product of St. Thomas More High School in Lafayette, La., nine; Leake Academy product Hannah Lee of Philadelphia, eight; Danielle Cole of Philadelphia, seven; and Allison Phillips of Leake Academy and

See ECCC, page 3B

ECCC

Continued from page 2B

Alisha McAfee of Northwest Rankin, four each.

Octavia Bearden had 17 points to lead the Lady Bears, who improved to 10-8 and 3-5.

EC trailed 33-29 at the break.

The Lady Warriors fell 66-54 to division leader Copiah-Lincoln Community College on Jan. 29, snapping an eight-game winning streak.

In the men's contest, Devarus "Scooter" Walker, a Newton County High School product, had 14 points to the lead the Warriors, whose record stands at 8-13 and 2-6. Also scoring were Josh Luckett of Carthage, 13; Rico Jones of Forest, 12; Newton High School product Antonio Grace of Meridian, 11; Steve Edwards of Newton, nine; Chucky Curry of Newton, four; and Rod Lofton of Forest, two.

Paul Hilliard had 27 points to lead Southwest, which improved to 3-16 and 1-7.

The Bears held a 33-29 advantage at the break.

ECCC squads host Hinds Community College Monday night. Women's action begins at 6 p.m. followed by the men's contest at 8 p.m. in the Brackeen-Wood Physical Education Building.

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WEEK OF 3/9/09

THE NEWTON COUNTY APPEAL Wednesday, March 11, 2009

ECCC women see season end

By Marty Stamper
Appeal Sports Editor

A successful title defense was not in the cards as the East Central Community College Lady Warriors were eliminated in the opening-round of the Region 23 Tournament with a 68-63 loss to Copiah-Lincoln Community College on March 3 at Mississippi College.

Co-Lin advanced to the finals before losing 52-43 to East Mississippi Community College.

The Lady Warriors wrapped up their season with a 17-10 record after losing six of their last eight games.

Co-Lin, ranked No. 9 nationally, improved to 25-3 with the win.

"We knew we had to limit turnovers and win the rebounding battle and I don't think we won either one of those," EC head coach Bill Smith said. "They have a good squad and are not ranked ninth in the country for nothing. We gave them a heck of a battle."

The Lady Wolves used 10 offensive rebounds to build a 29-20 lead in the first half. EC closed to within 31-25 going into halftime.

A close-range jumper from Mystee Dale trimmed EC's deficit to 39-38 with 13:43 remaining, but the Lady Wolves promptly extended their lead to 45-38 over the next three and a half minutes.

Co-Lin led 58-46 with 2:21 to play only to have EC battle to within 64-61 on another basket by Dale with 14.2 seconds left.

Shareka Hunt and Rhonda Dumas sealed the win with two free throws each in the closing seconds.

Freshman Hannah Lee of Leake Academy led EC's scoring with 18 points. Dale finished with 17. Alisha McAfee added eight. Rashima Jenkins and Yolanda Jones both scored five. DeShouri Spates and Allison Phillips both had four.

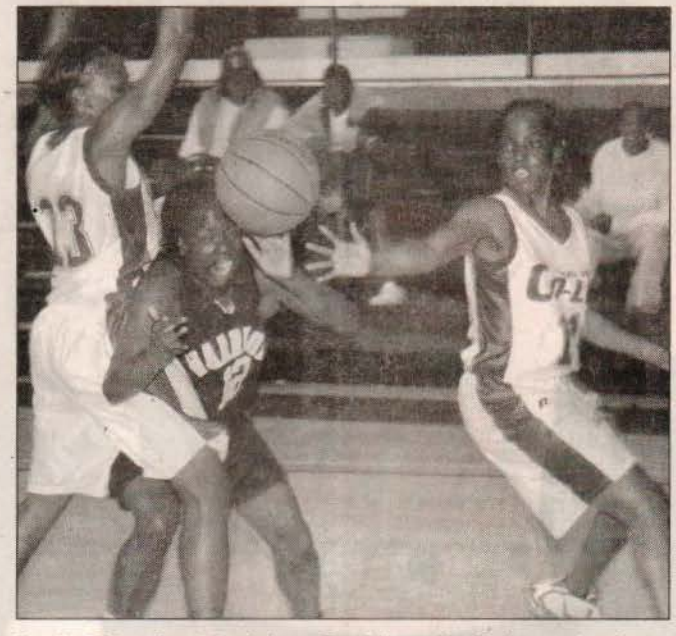
Jenkins led in rebounding with 10.

EC shot just 30 percent from the floor, making 18-of-59 attempts. The Lady Warriors were hot at the free-throw line, knocking down 27-of-35 attempts.

EC committed 25 turnovers.

Hunt led Co-Lin with 21 points. Latoria Holder scored 15.

"I thought we played hard," Smith said. "We did a good job of not giving up. We had a couple of chances there to tie it up, but never did get over the hump."



Lady Warrior Rashima Jenkins (dark jersey) tries to maintain possession while being pressured by a pair of Co-Lin defenders during East Central's 68-63 loss to the Lady Wolves in first-round women's action of the Region 23 Tournament held at Mississippi College. Jenkins had five points and 10 rebounds for the defending Region 23 champion Lady Warriors who completed season action with a 17-10 record.

EC photo

MACJC South Division Standings

Through March 11

Women	Div.	All
Copiah-Lincoln	11-1	26-4
Jones	9-3	23-7
East Central	7-5	17-10
Southwest	7-5	14-10
Gulf Coast	5-7	11-14
Pearl River	2-10	2-22
Hinds	1-11	4-21

Men	Div.	All
Jones	10-2	24-5
Gulf Coast	9-3	20-9
Pearl River	9-3	20-7
Copiah-Lincoln	7-5	15-14
Hinds	4-8	9-16
East Central	2-10	8-17
Southwest	1-11	3-19

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WEEK OF 3/~~18~~ 16/09

ECCC splits with Hinds

ECCC Lady Warriors earned a 94-59 trouncing of the Hinds Community College women. Lanie Triplett of Scott Central scored three points in the game.

In men's action, the Warriors fell 63-30 to the visiting Bulldogs.

Point makers were Kenneth Barlow of Scott Central, 12; Rico Jones and Rod Lofton, both of Forest, six each.

ECCC Squads Fall at Southwest

DECATUR—East Central Community College dropped a rare second-straight decision falling 67-66 to the Southwest Mississippi Community College Lady Bears.

The Warriors were also unsuccessful and fell 75-65 to the Bears.

Dale and fellow sophomore Rashima Jenkins had 17 points each to lead East Central.

Also scoring were DeShouri Spates, nine; Hannah Lee, eight; Danielle Cole, seven; and Allison Phillips and Alisha McAfee, four each.

In the men's contest, Devarus "Scooter" Walker, had 14 points to the lead the Warriors.

Also scoring were Josh Luckett, 13; Rico Jones of Forest, 12; Antonio Grace, 11; Steve Edwards, nine; Chucky Curry, four; and Rod Lofton of Forest, two.

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WEEK OF 3/23/09

Walker captures tennis title

Devarus "Scooter" Walker captured top honors in the Men's Tennis Showdown held Feb. 14 on the East Central Community College courts in Decatur.

Walker defeated Colton Amis 7-6, 7-4 to win the first-time competition.

Jason Hancock won the "A" Division and Matt Wade finished runner-up. Chris Reed placed third.

Other division finalists include Joseph Cieglo, Allen Amis, Nathan Calvert, Jordan Vance, Hunter Huff and Dee Walker.

Lady Diamond Warriors earn sweep

Fast-pitch softball competition began on a successful note for East Central Community College's Lady Diamond Warriors who took a pair of contests from East Mississippi Community College Feb. 11.

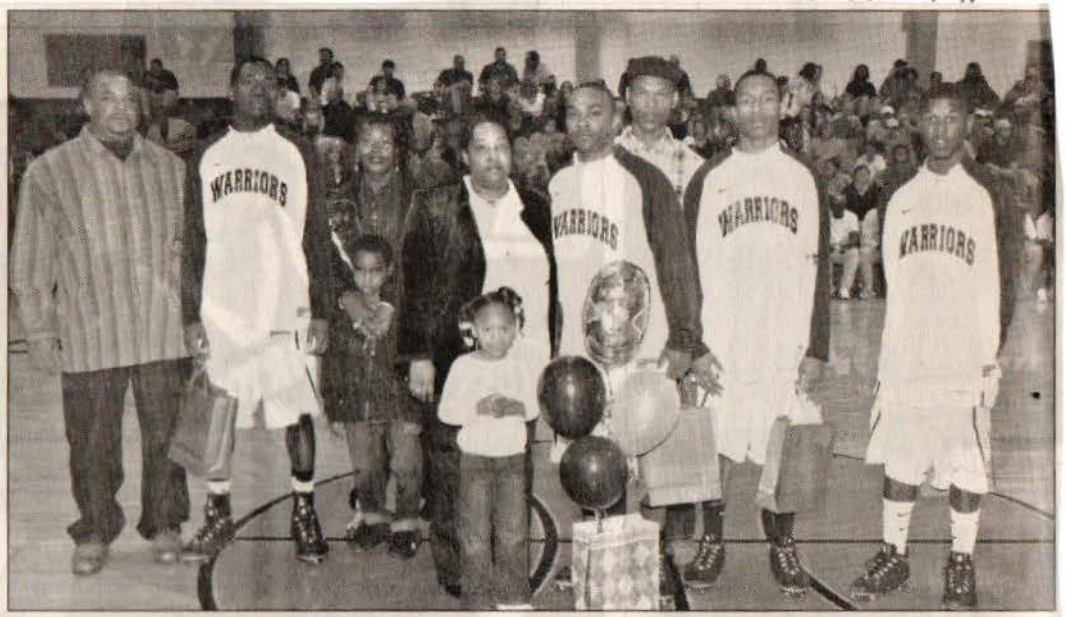
East Central rallied from a 3-1 deficit to claim the opener by a 5-4 margin and held on for a 4-1 decision in the nightcap.

Brittany Cochran and ***Emily Thrash of Sebastopol*** had two hits each to lead EC in game one. Cochran, who registered singles, was also credited with three RBIs.

Thrash pounded a double and single and knocked in a run. Kristen Pillsbury also doubled, and singles each were recorded by Amy Sharp and Leah Dennis. Dennis also had an RBI.

EC tallied one run in the first inning and four in the fifth. Runs were scored by Thrash (2), Dennis, Pillsbury and Brandy Greer.

The Lady Diamond Warriors never trailed in the night cap.



ECCC PHOTO

SOPHOMORE WARRIORS HONORED

Sophomore members of the East Central Community College men's basketball team were recognized during "Sophomore Appreciation Night" held Monday, Feb. 16 during the final home games for 2008-09. The honored Warriors received various gifts and were joined by family members for the special presentation held between games with Pearl River Community College. Honorees and their respective high schools include (from left) Josh Luckett, Carthage; Rod Lofton and Rico Jones, both of Forest; and Devarus "Scooter" Walker, Newton County. The Warriors are led by third-year head coach Maurice Bowie and first-year assistant Cornelius Gillevlen.

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WEEK OF May 4, 2009

Dale Inks with Marshall

East Central Community College basketball standout Mystee Dale (seated center) of Pachuta is shown signing a national letter of intent to continue her athletic career at Marshall University in Huntington, W. Va. Dale, a 5-foot-8 guard, averaged 19.8 points, 5.1 assists, 7.3 rebounds, and 2.4 steals in helping lead the 2008-09 Lady Warriors to state and regional competition en route to a 17-10 record. In recognition of her success, Dale received second team All-American, All-Region 23, first team All-State and All-Star honors. She was also named to the All-Region 23 tournament team for the second-straight season. Dale averaged 19.3 points for the 2007-08 Lady Warriors, who won the Region 23 Tournament and advanced to the NJCAA Division I Women's Basketball Tournament in Salina, Kan. EC finished the successful season with a 22-8 record. Dale is a former standout at Choctaw Central High School and helped lead the Lady Warriors to two consecutive Class 3A state championships. Dale is shown at the signing ceremony with her parents (seated) Kenneth and Wendy Dale, and (standing from left) Dalton Henry, tribal education services officer; Dr. Greg Carlyle, CCHS principal; Walter Wilson, CCHS athletic director and Mystee's high school coach; Bill Smith, ECCC women's head basketball coach; and Barry Jim, the "voice" of the Choctaw Central Warriors. The ceremony was held April 28 before a packed crowd in the Choctaw Central High School library.

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WEEK OF May 11, 2009

East Central Community College's basketball programs received a financial boost thanks to a recent contribution from the Decatur Lions Club. Club representative Bobby Addy (left) of Decatur is shown presenting a $500 check to athletic director Chris Harris while Warrior head coach Maurice Bowie and Lady Warrior head coach Bill Smith look on. The contribution is a result of the club's concession sales during home basketball games.

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WEEK OF May 18, 2009

PICTURE THIS

ECCC PHOTO

WARRIORS SIGN BANKS

Morton High School basketball standout Shelton Banks (seated third from left) is shown signing a national letter of intent to continue his career at East Central Community College in Decatur. Banks, a 5-6 point guard, averaged 9.6 points and 5.4 assists in helping the Panthers to the South State Tournament and a 23-7 record. Banks was named All-District and was a two-time recipient of the Panthers' Playmaker Award. Pictured with the new Warrior are his mother, Victoria Banks (second from left) and sister, Francheska Banks (left), and ECCC head basketball coach Maurice Bowie, who is also a former MHS basketball standout.

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WEEK OF May 18, 2009

New Lady Warriors

Area girls' basketball players who recently signed national letters of intent to continue their athletic careers with East Central Community College in Decatur are (seated from left) Quentinette Odom, a 5-foot-7 guard from Scott Central; Jakiala McWilliams, a 5-foot-8 guard from Neshoba Central; Shanequa Bufkin, a 5-foot-4 guard from Scott Central; and Bianca Thomas, a 6-foot-2 center from Sebastopol. Odom received All-State Class 2A and All-Division 5-2A honors and Bufkin made All-Division 5-2A as they helped lead Scott Central to the 2A South State title and a third-place finish in the state en route to a 28-5 record. Odom averaged 18 points and seven rebounds, while Bufkin averaged six points and seven assists. McWilliams received Most Improved honors for the Lady Rockets, who finished 14-11. Thomas helped lead Sebastopol to the Class 1A South State playoffs en route to a 22-5 record. Shown with the new Lady Warriors are (standing from left) Chad Harrison, Scott Central girls' head basketball coach; Odom's parents, Quentin and Wilma Odom; McWilliams' mother, Kathy Herrington and friend R.B. Spivey; Cindy Adams, Neshoba Central assistant basketball coach; Bufkin's grandparents, Mollie and Willie J. Bufkin; Thomas' parents, Ernest and Loretta Thomás; and Bill Smith, ECCC women's head basketball coach. McWilliams is also the daughter of Jimmy Herrington.

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WEEK OF June 3, 2009

Basketball standout Shelton Banks signs with ECCC

Morton High School basketball standout Shelton Banks (seated third from left) is shown signing a national letter of intent to continue his athletic career at East Central Community College in Decatur. Banks, a 5-6 point guard, averaged 9.6 points and 5.4 assists in helping lead the Panthers to the South State Tournament and a 23-7 record. Banks was named All-District and made the All-Scott County Tournament Team following the 2008-09 season. He is also a two-time recipient of the Panthers' Playmaker Award. Pictured with the new Warrior are his mother, Victoria Banks (second from left) and sister, Francheska Banks (left), and ECCC head basketball coach Maurice Bowie, who is also a former MHS basketball standout. (submitted photo)

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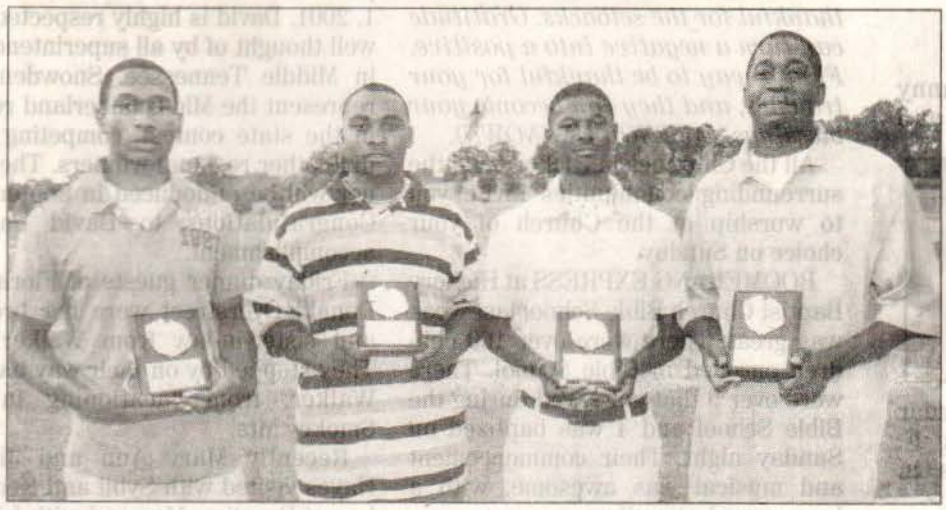
WEEK OF June 8, 2009



EC Basketball Awards

Receiving basketball awards at East Central Community College for 2008-09 are (from left) Rico Jones of Forest (Most Valuable Offensive Player), Rod Lofton of Forest (Most Valuable Defensive Player), Devarus "Scooter" Walker of Newton County (Hustle Award), and Josh Luckett of Carthage (Scholar Athlete, Warrior Award, second team MACJC All-State, and All-Star.

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WEEK OF June 1, 2009

ECCC Women's Basketball Award Winners

Lady Warrior basketball players who received honors at East Central Community College's annual Spring Sports Awards Banquet include (seated from left) Sha Coleman of Newton County High School (Lady Warrior Award), Allison Phillips of Leake Academy (Most Improved), and Rashima Jenkins of Airline (La.) High School (Most Valuable Defensive Player, All-Region 23, second team MACJC All-State, and All-Star). Standing are Katherine Taylor of Carthage (Scholar Athlete), and Hannah Lee of Leake Academy (Hustle Award). Not pictured is Mystee Dale of Choctaw Central (Most Valuable Offensive Player, second team NJCAA All-American, All-Region 23, All-Region 23 Tournament Team, first team MACJC All-State, and All-Star). ECCC President Dr. Phil A. Sutphin and Lady Warrior head coach Bill Smith presented awards.

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WEEK OF November 2, 2009

ECCC PHOTO

Members of the 2009-10 Warrior basketball team at East Central Community College in Decatur and their respective high schools include (seated, from left) guards Jasper Bronson (22) of Forest Hill, Victor Taylor (14) of Noxubee County, Joshua Carothers (20) of Columbus, Keondre Hodges (21) and Antonio Grace (11), both of Newton, Shelton Banks (15) of Morton, Kendrick McKee (32) of Scott Central and Steve Edwards (34), Newton; and (back row, from left) head coach Maurice Bowie, manager Darius Walker of Newton County; guard Kenneth Thomas (3) of Provine, forward Titus Mims (23) of Alief Hastings (Houston, Texas), forward/center Aquill Baynard (10) of Elsik (Houston, Texas), forward Jonathan McLenden (30) of Alief Hastings (Houston, Texas), guards Greg Hodo (25) of Northwest Rankin and Kendall Jackson (31) of Columbus; manager Jeremy Jones of Newton and assistant coach Cornelius Gilleylen. The home opener is scheduled Saturday, Nov. 7 with Northeast Mississippi Community College. The women's game begins at 2 p.m. with the mens game to follow at 4 p.m.

Warriors ready for season

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WEEK OF November 2, 2009

EC basketball teams ready for 2009-10 season

from school reports

If preseason workouts are an indication of what's to come, then East Central Community College's basketball squads can look forward to successful seasons.

Both head coaches — Bill Smith, who returns for his fifth season leading the Lady Warriors, and Maurice Bowie, set to begin his fourth season as Warrior head mentor — expressed confidence about their respective squads, who began the 2009-10 campaign Monday at Holmes Community College in Goodman.

The Lady Warriors and Warriors will also be on the road Thursday at East Mississippi Community College. The women's game is set to begin at 5:30 p.m. followed by the men's matchup at 7:30 p.m.

The first home games are scheduled for Saturday against Northeast Mississippi Community College. The women's contest is set for 2 p.m. followed by the men's game at 4 p.m. in the Brackeen-Wood Physical Education Building.

"Our team has really been working hard in the off season and hopefully it will pay off when the season gets under way," said Smith, whose 2008-09 squad advanced to post-season play before finishing at 17-10.

"This is a much faster team than last year and can run the floor better," he said. "We are also a lot smaller, but hopefully our guard play will improve."

One of Smith's main goals this season is another return to the post-season and hopefully a championship. The 2007-08 squad won the Region 23 title and advanced to the NJCAA Tournament in Salina, Kan., finishing at 22-8. The Lady Warriors were ranked as high as ninth in the NJCAA poll.

A key member of both squads has since moved on to the university level. Mystee Dale, a 5-foot-8 guard and former Choctaw Central High School standout, averaged almost 20 points, five assists, and seven rebounds in 2008-09 and garnered second team NJCAA All-American, Region 23, All-State, and All-Star honors. She is continuing her athletic career at Marshall University.

Bill Smith

Smith said replacing Dale will not be easy, but he is confident that the returning sophomores will provide the point production and leadership needed for a successful season.

His four returnees are guards Hannah Lee (5-11) of Leake Academy, Danielle Cole (5-7) of Philadelphia, Yolanda Jones (5-5) of Lake, and Sierra Croff (5-4), of Newton County High School.

With only four returnees, Smith said the team's success will also depend on how the freshmen perform.

"I hope they (freshmen) can adjust to the college game in a hurry," Smith said of the nine freshmen, his largest group since taking over the women's program in 2005. "They will have to contribute early for us to be successful."

Newcomers include guards Alise Bryant (5-4) of Northwest Rankin, Shanequa Bukfin (5-3) of Scott Central, Shantell Neely (5-3) of Searcy, Ark. and Demetria Slocum (5-5) of Bradford, Fla.; forwards Xenobia Lavender (5-11) of Noxapater, Jakiala McWilliams (5-7) of Neshoba Central, Quentinette Odom (5-8) of Scott Central and Sharae Pigues (5-10) of Olive Branch; and center Bianca Thomas (6-3) of Sebastopol.

Kristin Chaney begins her second year as Smith's assistant.

Maurice Bowie

Bowie is also optimistic about his Warriors and has high hopes of producing the team's first winning season since taking over the program in 2006. Last year's squad finished 8-17.

"I love the way my guys catch on to things and pick it up the first time around," Bowie said. "They have a good basketball IQ and know what's going on when they are on the court."

Bowie describes this year's squad as "very fast and smart" and one that "makes good decisions on and off the court.

"I know we are not going to overpower anybody with strength or size," Bowie added, "but, although small, we are a smart team and very disciplined."

Bowie said his goals this year are "to graduate all our sophomores and give it all we got every day or night and play for a championship."

Only three sophomores return from last year's squad, but Bowie said all three will be considered "captains and supervisors.

"Each player has a different job to do and each one has definitely taken the bull by the horns and embraced his position and goal," he said.

Returnees are point guard Antonio Grace (5-7) and shooting guard Steve Edwards (6-foot), both from Newton High School; and guard Kenneth Thomas (6-4) of Jackson Provine.

The fourth-year head coach is also complimentary of his freshman players.

"I'm very pleased with the players we recruited this year because they all want to be a part of something special and are willing to work hard to get it," Bowie said. "Not all kids are going to put in the work, but this group has gone beyond what we asked them to do."

Freshman squad members are guards Joshua Carothers (5-8) and Kendall Jackson (6-1), both of Columbus, Kenondre Hodges (5-11) of Newton, Jasper Bronson (6-foot) of Forest Hill, Greg Hodo (6-3) of Northwest Rankin, and Kendrick McKee of Scott Central; shooting guard Victor Taylor (6-foot) of Noxubee; point guard Shelton Banks (5-9) of Morton; forwards Titus Mims (6-7) and Jonathan McLenden (6-7), both products of Alief Hasting High School in Houston, Texas; and forward/center Aquill Baynard (6-7) of Jackson Provine.

"I just can't say enough how hard these guys have worked in the off-season and preseason," Bowie said. "I hope fans will be pleased with the product we put on the floor this year."

Cornelius Gilleylen begins his second year as Bowie's assistant.

CLARION-LEDGER
MERIDIAN STAR

WEEK OF November 2, 2009

EAST CENTRAL COMMUNITY COLLEGE BASKETBALL PREVIEW

ECCC PHOTO

2009-10 LADY WARRIORS

Members of the 2009-10 East Central Community College women's basketball team includes (seated, from left) guard Shanequa Bufkin (20) and forward Quentinette Odom (34), both of Scott Central; forward Jakiala McWilliams (15), Neshoba Central; guards Alise Bryant (21) of Northwest Rankin, Yolanda Jones (12) of Lake, Sierra Croff (23) of Newton County, Danielle Cole (24) of Philadelphia, Shantel Neely (10) of Searcy (Searcy, Ark.), and Demetria Slocum (4) of Bradford (Starke, Fla); and (back row, from left) head coach Bill Smith, assistant coach Kristin Chaney, forward Sharae Pigues (30) of Olive Branch, center Bianca Thomas (5) of Sebastopol, guard Hannah Lee (25) of Leake Academy, forward Xenobia Lavender (11) of Noxapater and managers Mercedes Brown of Sebastopol and Lanie Triplett and Tybrica Odom, both of Scott Central.

ECCC PHOTO

2009-10 WARRIORS

Members of the 2009-10 East Central Community College men's basketball team includes (seated, from left) guards Jasper Bronson (22) of Forest Hill, Victor Taylor (14) of Noxubee County, Joshua Carothers (20) of Columbus, Keondre Hodges (21) and Antonio Grace (11), both of Newton, Shelton Banks (15) of Morton, Kendrick McKee (32) of Scott Central and Steve Edwards (34), Newton; and (back row, from left) head coach Maurice Bowie, manager Darius Walker of Newton County; guard Kenneth Thomas (3) of Provine, forward Titus Mims (23) of Alief Hastings (Houston, Texas), forward/center Aquill Baynard (10) of Elsik (Houston, Texas), forward Jonathan McLenden (30) of Alief Hastings (Houston, Texas), guards Greg Hodo (25) of Northwest Rankin and Kendall Jackson (31) of Columbus; manager Jeremy Jones of Newton and assistant coach Cornelius Gilleylen.

Remaining workshops and test dates for the American College Test (ACT) in 2009-10 have been announced at East Central Community College in Decatur.

The workshops, which are designed to assist students prior to taking the college entrance exam, are scheduled Feb. 2, 2010 and March 30, 2010, in Newton Hall, Room 60. Registration deadlines to reserve seating for each workshop are scheduled Jan. 29, 2010, and March 26, 2010.

Cost to attend each workshop is $10 and should be sent to ECCC Career-Technical Education, P. O. Box 129, Decatur, MS 39327.

Exams are scheduled Dec. 12; Feb. 6, 2010, April 10, 2010 and June 12, 2010. Respective deadlines to register for each test are Nov. 6, Jan. 5, 2010, March 5, 2010, and May 7, 2010.

The ACT will also be administered in Newton Hall, beginning at 8 a.m.

To register for the ACT, go to the organization's Web site, www.actstudent.org. For more information, contact Michael Alexander, academic counselor, (601) 635-2111 or call toll free, (877) 462-3222, ext. 231. His e-mail address is malexander@eccc.edu.

OBA DEMOCRAT _____

COUNTY TIMES _____

ON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

ON-LEDGER _____

ECCC excited to hit the court

from school reports

DECATUR — If preseason workouts are an indication of what's to come, then East Central Community College's basketball squads can look forward to successful seasons.

Both head coaches — Bill Smith, who returns for his fifth season leading the Lady Warriors, and Maurice Bowie, set to begin his fourth season as Warrior head mentor — expressed confidence about their respective squads, who began the 2009-10 campaign Monday at Holmes Community College in Goodman.

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"This is a much faster team than last year and can run the floor better," he said. "We are also a lot smaller but hopefully our guard play will improve."

One of Smith's main goals this season is another return to the post-season and hopefully a championship. The 2007-08 squad won the Region 23 title and advanced to the NJCAA Tournament in Salina, Kan., finishing at 22-8. The Lady Warriors were ranked as high as ninth in the NJCAA poll.

A key member of both squads has since moved on to the university level. Myster Dale, a 5-foot-8 guard and former Choctaw County High School standout, averaged almost 20 points, five assists and [illegible] Region 23, All-State and All-Star honors. She is continuing her athletic career at Marshall University.

Smith said replacing Dale will not be easy, but he is confident that the returning sophomores will provide the point production and leadership needed for a successful season.

His four returnees are guards Hannah Lee (5-11) of Leake Academy, Danielle Cole (5-7) of Philadelphia, Yolanda Jones (5-5) of Lake and Sierra Croff (5-4), a product of Newton County High School.

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Newcomers include guards Alise Bryant (5-4) of Northwest Rankin, Shanequa Bukfin (5-3) of Scott Central, Shantell Neely (5-3) of Searcy, Ark. and Demetria Slocum (5-5) of Bradford, Fla.; forwards Xenobia Lavender (5-11) of Noxapater, Jakiala McWilliams (5-7) of Neshoba Central, Quentinette Odom (5-8) of Scott Central and Sharae Pigues (5-10) of Olive Branch; and center Bianca Thomas (6-3) of Sebastopol.

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"Each player has a different job to do and each one has definitely taken the bull by the horns and embraced his position and goal," he said.

Returnees are point guard Antonio Grace (5-7) and shooting guard Steve Edwards (6'), both products of Newton High School; and guard Kenneth Thomas (6-4) of Jackson Provine.

The fourth-year head coach is also complimentary of his freshman players.

"I'm very pleased with the players we recruited this year because they all want to be a part of something special and are willing to work hard to get it," Bowie said. "Not all kids are going to put in the work, but this group has gone beyond what we asked them to do."

Freshman squad members are guards Joshua Carothers (5-8) and Kendall Jackson (6-1), both of Columbus, Kenondre Hodges (5-11) of Newton, Jasper Bronson (6') of Forest Hill, Greg Hodo (6-3) of Northwest Rankin and Kendrick McKee of Scott Central; shooting guard Victor Taylor (6') of Noxubee; point guard Shelton Banks (5-9) of Morton; forwards Titus Mims (6-7) and Jonathan McLenden (6-7), both products of Alief Hasting High School in Houston, Texas; and forward/center Aquill Baynard (6-7) of Jackson Provine.

"I just can't say enough how hard these guys have worked in the off-season and preseason," Bowie said. "I have [illegible] we got on the floor this year."

Coaches [illegible]

November 9, 2009

EC Warriors rally to clip Tigers; Lady Warriors roll

Sophomore Kenneth Thomas pumped in 18 points - including several three-pointers in the game's final minutes - to lead East Central Community College to a 63-57 come-from-behind victory over Northeast Mississippi Community College Saturday afternoon in the Brackeen-Wood Physical Education Building.

Thomas, a 6-4 guard and product of Jackson Provine, drained a trey as the shot clock sounded to give EC a 51-47 advantage with 4:15 left, and connected on his fourth trey of the non-division contest with 3:32 remaining which gave the Warriors a 54-50 lead. Freshman guard Keondre Hodges' lay-in gave EC the cushion it needed at 58-50 with 44 seconds remaining and the Warriors held on for their first season victory and improved to 1-2.

Hodges, a former Newton High School standout, finished with 12 points as did freshman Titus Mims, a product of Alief Hastings in Houston, Texas. Also scoring were Antonio Grace of Newton, nine; Jonathan McLenden of Alief Hastings, five; Aquill Baynard of Elsik High School in Houston, Texas, four; and Steve Edwards of Newton, three.

Tyrie Berry had 16 points to lead Northeast, which fell to 1-2.

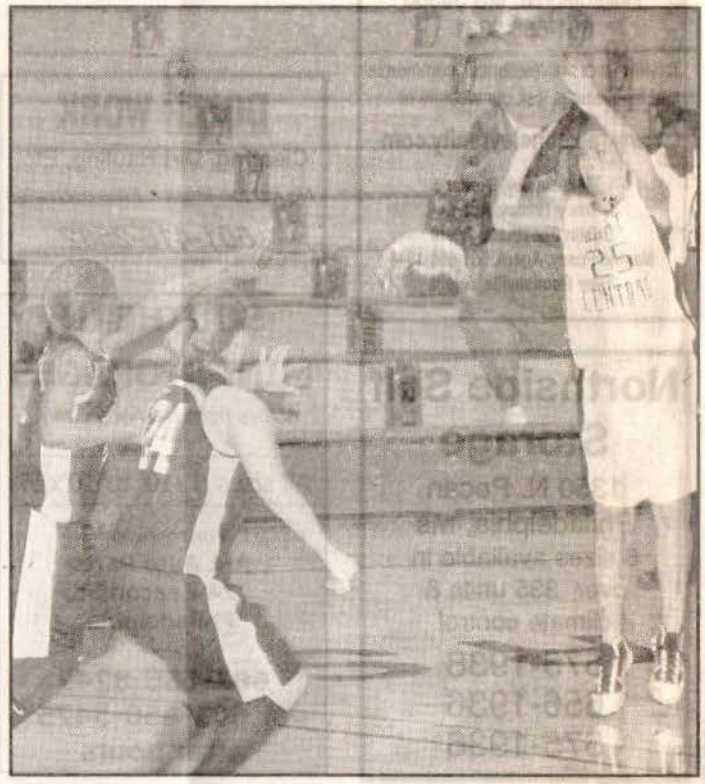
EC, which trailed by 17 points during first half action, cut the deficit to 31-22 at the break. The Warriors outscored the visitors by a 41-26 margin in the second half.

In the women's contest, the Lady Warriors jumped out to a 47-26 halftime advantage and cruised to an 81-59 thumping of the visiting Lady Tigers.

EC, which improved to 2-1, was led by freshman center Bianca Thomas of Sebastopol, who had 11 points.

Other point makers were Danielle Cole of Philadelphia and Shantell Neely of Searcy, Ark., nine each; Hannah Lee of Leake Academy, eight; Jakiala McWilliams of Neshoba Central, Alise Bryant of Northwest Rankin and Sharae Pigues

See **ECCC**, page 13A



EC photo

Hannah Lee (25) of Philadelphia launches a shot during East Central's 81-59 pounding of Northeast Saturday.

APPEAL DEMOCRAT ✓
CARTHAGE NEWS
NEWTON COUNTY TIMES
SPIRIT OF MORTON
WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL
MERIDIAN STAR
CLARION-LEDGER

WEEK OF November 9, 2009

All or nothing for ECCC teams

from school reports

It was either sweep or get swept for the East Central Community College basketball teams last week.

The Warriors and Lady Warriors bounced back from losing a pair of games at East Mississippi to take two wins over Northeast Mississippi.

After going to Coahoma on Monday, EC returns home to host Holmes on Thursday and Itawamba on Saturday.

East Mississippi	**58**
EC women	**56**

Lady Warrior Yolanda Jones' 3-point shot at the buzzer was blocked by East Mississippi Community College's Natalie Tate as the Lady Lions escaped with a two-point nail-biter over EC Thursday in Scooba.

Danielle Cole led the Lady Warriors with 14 points. Also scoring were Jones and Hannah Lee with 11 each, Shantell Neely with eight, and Sierra Croff with five.

Tate led EMCC with 17 points.

EC trailed 28-27 at the break.

East Mississippi	**63**
EC men	**56**

EC's men were also defeated Thursday in Scooba as the Lions made clutch shots in the game's final moments to post a seven-point win.

Kenneth Thomas and Joshua Carothers of Columbus led EC with 13 points each. Also scoring were Steve Edwards with 11, and Aquill Baynard and Titus Mims with six each.

Coco Ware, a preseason second team NJCAA All-American, pumped in 24 points to lead EMCC.

EMCC held a 30-24 edge at the break.

EC women	**81**
Northeast	**59**

The Lady Warriors jumped out to a 47-26 halftime advantage and cruised to a 22-point thumping of the visiting Lady Tigers Saturday in Decatur.

EC, which improved to 2-1, was led by freshman center Bianca Thomas of Sebastopol with 11 points.

Other point makers were Danielle Cole of Philadelphia and Shantell Neely of Searcy, Ark., with nine each; Hannah Lee of Leake Academy with eight, Jakiala McWilliams of Neshoba Central, Alise Bryant of Northwest Rankin, and Sharae Pigues of Olive Branch with seven each; and Sierra Croff of Newton County and Quentinette Odom of Scott Central with six each.

Chelsey Whitaker poured in 14 points for Northeast, which fell to 0-2.

EC men	**63**
Northeast	**57**

Sophomore Kenneth Thomas pumped in 18 points — including several 3-pointers in the game's final minutes — to lead EC to a come-from-behind victory over Northeast Mississippi Saturday afternoon in Decatur.

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Hodges, a former Newton High School standout, finished with 12 points as did freshman Titus Mims, a product of Alief Hastings in Houston, Texas. Also scoring were Antonio Grace of Newton with nine points and Jonathan McLenden with five.

Tyrie Berry had 16 points to lead Northeast, 1-2.

EC, which trailed by 17 points during first half action, cut the deficit to 31-22 at the break. The Warriors outscored the visitors 41-26 in the second half.

NEWTON COUNTY APPEAL ✓

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF November 16, 2009

ECCC sweeps Coahoma, ICC

By Marty Stamper
Appeal Sports Editor

Three wins last week upped the East Central Community College Lady Warriors' record to 5-1 in the early going of the 2009-10 basketball season.

The EC men went 2-1 to even their season's mark at 3-3.

After hosting East Mississippi on Monday, the EC teams travel to Northeast Mississippi Thursday.

EC women	**69**
Coahoma	**56**

Freshman guard Demetria Slocum of Starke, Fla., pumped in 25 points as the Lady Warriors rallied from a 37-33 halftime deficit to beat Coahoma on November 9 in Clarksdale.

Also scoring for EC, 3-1, were Yolanda Jones with 10, Danielle Cole with eight, Shantel Neely with seven, and Sharae Pigues and Newton County's Sierra Croff with four each.

Kyla Winford and Corlissa Pope had 11 points each for Coahoma.

EC men	**79**
Coahoma	**77**

Kenneth Thomas of Jackson Provine led the Warriors, who escaped with a two-point overtime win over the host Tigers at Clarksdale on November 9. Thomas knocked down 16 points.

The game was tied at 70 at the end of regulation.

The Warriors evened their record at 2-2.

Other Warrior scorers were Antonio Grace and Keondre Hodges, both former Newton High School Tigers, with 13 each; Titus Mims with nine, Aquill Baynard and Joshua Carothers with eight apiece, and Steve Edwards of Newton and Kendall Jackson with six each.

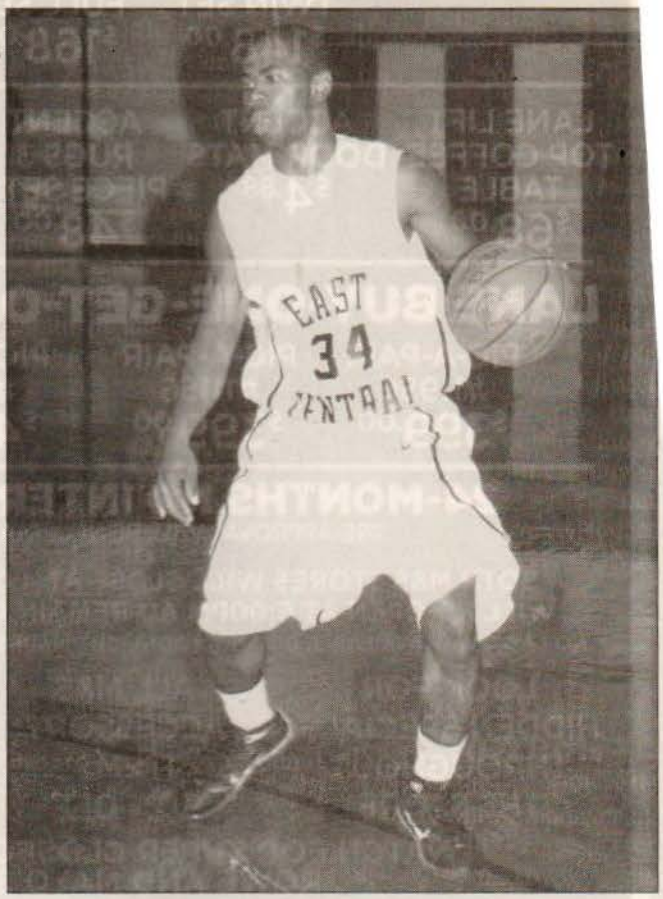
JaMarquis Lewis led Coahoma with 16 points.

EC trailed 37-36 at the midway break.

EC women	**70**
Holmes	**41**

The Lady Warriors scored the game's first eight points Thursday as they improved

Continued on 5B...
See ECCC...



Newton native Steve Edwards looks to find an opening in EC's 86-78 loss to Holmes Thursday in Decatur.

Photo by Marty Stamper

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____
NEWTON COUNTY APPEAL ✓
SPIRIT OF MORTON _____
MERIDIAN STAR _____
NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____
SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____
WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____
CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF November 16, 2009

Lady Warriors avenge earlier loss to EMCC

Danielle Cole blistered the backboards for 26 points and led the East Central Community College Lady Warriors to their fifth straight victory, a 72-64 decision over the East Mississippi Community College women Monday night in the Brackeen-Wood Physical Education in Decatur.

Cole, a 5-7 sophomore guard and product of Philadelphia High School, also had four rebounds and three assists as EC improved to 6-1 under fifth-year head coach Bill Smith.

In addition to Cole, other EC scorers were Demetria Slocum, a product of Bradford High School in Starke, Fla., 13; Hannah Lee of Leake Academy, nine; Shantel Neely, of Searcy (Ark.) High School, eight; Yolanda Jones of Lake, seven; Sierra Croff of Newton County, six; and Quentinette Odom of Scott Central, three. Slocum and Odom were the top rebounders with six each.

Eryn Gray poured in 13 points to lead the Lady Lions, who dropped to 3-2.

EC, which held a 31-28 advantage at halftime, avenged an earlier 58-56 setback to the Lady Lions on the Scooba campus.

In the men's game, Warrior Antonio Grace's left-handed lay-in to possibly win the game was blocked with 2.5 seconds left and East Mississippi added two late free throws to seal a 78-75 victory and earn a series sweep of the long-time rivalry.

With the loss, the EC men fell to 3-4 under fourth-year head coach Maurice Bowie.

Kenneth Thomas, a 6-4 sophomore guard from Jackson Provine, led EC in scoring with 24 points. Grace, a 5-7 sophomore guard from Newton, pumped in 23 pounds and led in rebounds with 11.

Also scoring were Titus Mims, a product of Alief Hastings High School in Houston, Texas, 10; Kendall Jackson of Columbus, eight; Aquill Baynard of Elisk High School in Houston, Texas, and Jonathan McLenden, also of Alief Hastings, three each; and Keondre Hodges and Steve Edwards, both of Newton, two each.

Coco Ware had 19 points to lead the Lions, who improved to 6-1.

EC trailed 42-41 at the break.

East Mississippi earlier defeated the Warriors by a 63-56 margin on the Scooba campus.

Next up for the ECCC squads are non-division contests with Northeast Mississippi Community College Thursday night. The women's game begins at 5 p.m. followed by the men's matchup at 8 p.m. on the Booneville campus.

The Lady Warriors and Warriors return to action after the Thanksgiving holidays by hosting Copiah-Lincoln Community College on Thursday, Dec. 3, in the MACJC South Division opener. The women's game is set for 6 p.m. followed by the men's battle at 8 p.m. in the Brackeen-Wood Physical Education Building.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

NEWTON COUNTY APPEAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL ✓

CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF November 16, 2009

Lady Warriors earn win

FROM STAFF REPORTS

DECATUR — East Central Community College's Lady Warriors improved to 4-1 following an easy 70-41 win over the Holmes Community College women Thursday night in the Brackeen-Wood Physical Education Building.

The Warriors were not as fortunate, as their come-back effort fell short in an 86-78 defeat to the visiting Bulldogs.

Danielle Cole of Philadelphia and Shantel Neely of Searcy, Ark., had 12 points each to lead the East Central women who swept their season series with Lady Bulldogs. EC posted an 82-74 decision in Goodman to begin the 2009-10 campaign.

Other Lady Warrior point makers were Sierra Croff, a product of Newton County High School, 11; Demetria Slocum of Starke, Fla., 10; Bianca Thomas of Sebastopol, six; Yolanda Jones of Lake and Alise Bryant of Northwest Rankin, four each; Hannah Lee of Leake Academy and Quentinette Odom of Scott Central, three each; Xeneobia Lavender of Noxapater and Shaneqyua Bufkin of Scott Central, two each; and Jakiala McWilliams of Neshoba Central, one. Odom was the top rebounder with 11.

Justinne McClain and Brittany Henry had seven points each to lead the Lady Bulldogs, who fell to 0-4.

In the men's contest, the Warriors trimmed a 19-point deficit to three points but could get no closer and their two-game win streak ended. EC, which fell to 2-3, also dropped the season opener to the Bulldogs by a 78-69 margin in Goodman.

ECCC PHOTO

Lady Warrior Quentinette Odom (34) gets past a Holmes defender. She is a product of Scott Central High School.

Keondre Hodges of Newton had 13 points and five rebounds to lead East Central. Also scoring were Steve Edwards, also of Newton, 12; Aquill Baynard of Houston, Texas, 10; Antonio Grace of Newton and Kendall Jackson of Columbus, nine each; Joshua Carothers of Columbus, eight; Kenneth Thomas of Jackson Provine, four; Shelton Banks of Morton and Jonathan McLenden of Houston, Texas, two each.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

NEWTON COUNTY APPEAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES ✓

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

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WEEK OF November 16, 2009

ECCC splits with EMCC

Decatur— East Mississippi improved to (6-1) on the season as it pulled out a 78-75 squeaker Monday night in Decatur.

The Warriors (3-4) trailed by only one point with 10 seconds left in the contest. However, a blocked shot on an Antonio Grace shot sealed the win for the Lions.

East Mississippi was led by Coco Ware's team high 19 points. Also getting in on the scoring action were Marino Thompson with 17 points and Anthony Alexander with 14.

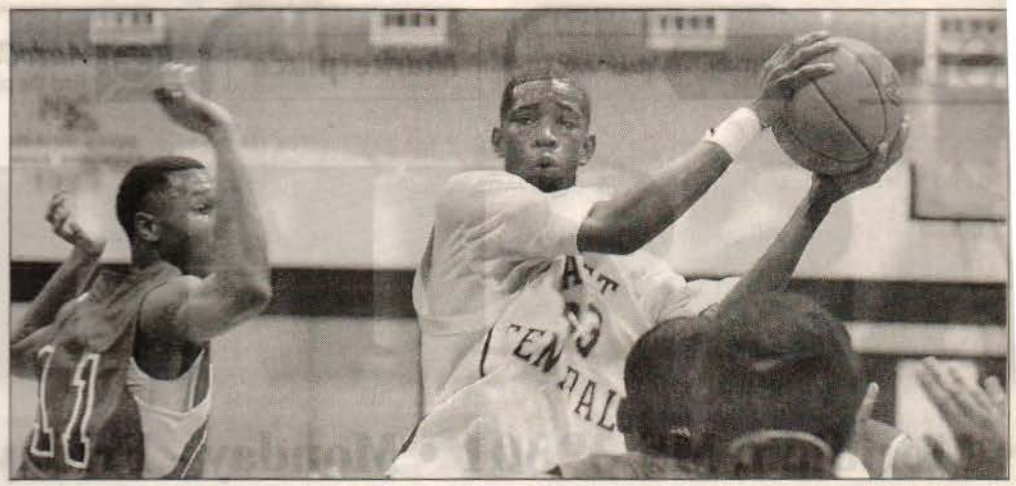
East Central also had 3 players to reach double digits as Kenneth Thomas had a game high 24 point effort. Antonio Grace dropped in 23 and Titus Mims scored 10 in the loss.

This was the second time East Central has lost to the Lions on the season.

East Central will travel to take on Northeast Community College Thursday.

East Mississippi will also hit the road as they take on Marion Military Institute tonight.

— Daniel Rigdon



PAULA MERRITT/ THE MERIDIAN STAR

LOOKING FOR HELP

East Central Community College's Titus Mims looks for some help at the top fo the key against East Mississippi Community College Monday night in Decatur.

ECCC women	**72**
EMCC	**64**

East Central upped its record to (6-1) on the year as it defeated East Mississippi Community College 72-64 in Decatur Monday night.

East Mississippi (3-2) would stay within striking distance throughout the contest as they only trailed 31-28 at the end of the first half.

The Warriors were led by Danielle Cole who had a game high 26 points. Demetria Slocum would also add 13 for ECCC.

The Lions had four players who put up double figures on the night. Eryn Gray had a team high 13 points while Nashedra Barry added 12. Natalie Tate and Martica Hull both contributed 11 point performances.

EMCC will be back in action Wednesday night as they host Meridian Community College.

ECCC will hit the road as they take on Northeast Community College Thursday night.

— Daniel Rigdon

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

NEWTON COUNTY APPEAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

MERIDIAN STAR ✓

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF November 23, 2009

ECCC women beat EMCC

By Marty Stamper
Appeal Sports Editor

The East Central Community College Lady Warriors defeated East Mississippi (72-64) and lost to Northeast Mississippi (75-74) in last week's basketball action.

The Warriors lost to both East Mississippi (78-75) and Northeast (79-71).

The Lady Warriors, 6-2, and Warriors, 3-5, return to action after the Thanksgiving holidays by hosting Copiah-Lincoln on Thursday, Dec. 3, in their MACJC South Division openers.

EC women 72
East Mississippi 64

The Lady Warriors atoned for an earlier loss with an eight-point win over East Mississippi on November 16 at Decatur.

Danielle Cole of Philadelphia scored 26 points as EC improved to 6-1 and extended its win streak to five.

Demetria Slocum tossed in 13 points, Hannah Lee added nine, Shantel Neely had eight, Yolanda Jones had seven and Sierra Croff of Newton County scored six.

Eryn Gray led the Lady Lions, 3-2 with 13 points.

EC led 31-28 at halftime, then outscored the Lady Lions 41-36 over the second 20 minutes.

East Mississippi 78
EC men 75

Antonio Grace's left-handed lay-in to possibly win the game was blocked with 2.5 seconds left and East Mississippi added two late free throws to seal a three-point win and earn a series sweep with the November 16 win at Decatur.

Kenneth Thomas led EC, 3-4, with 24 points. Grace scored 23 and had 11 rebounds. Titus Mims added 10 points and Kendall Jackson scored eight.

Coco Ware had 19 points to lead East Mississippi, 6-1.

The Lions led 42-41 at halftime.

Northeast 75
EC women 74

The Lady Warriors fell by one in Thursday's contest at

Continued on 5B...
See ECCC...

Newton County grad Sierra Croff drives in for a layup in East Central's recent game with Holmes. The Lady Warriors are 6-2 going into this week.
Photo by Marty Stamper

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____
NEWTON COUNTY APPEAL ✓
SPIRIT OF MORTON _____
MERIDIAN STAR _____
NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____
SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____
WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____
CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF November 23, 2009

SUBMITTED PHOTO

ECCC BASKETBALL

The 1964 to 1976 East Central Community College basketball teams coached by Joe Clark were among special groups honored during homecoming activities held Oct. 3. Former team members include (front row, from left) Art Fulton and Mac Hall, both of Philadelphia; Herman Coats of Batesville, Keith Branning of Ridgeland, Dennis Walton of Gulfport, Clark, Rodney Tadlock of Decatur, Sammy Pace of Moselle and Sam Nowell of Philadelphia; and (back row, from left) Joe Fondren of Abbeville, Danny Gressett of Decatur, Allen Harrison and Ronnie Westbrook, both of Little Rock; V.L. Mott and Keith Everett, both of Meridian; Sid Williams of Philadelphia, Bill Wheeler of Columbus, Mike Cosgrove of Lawrence, Gary Gordon of Bay Springs and Larry Gressett of Conehatta. Not pictured but also attending the reunion are Polan Willis of Decatur, Ala.; Butch Cox of Gonzales, La.; and Haywood Reeves of Forest.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

NEWTON COUNTY APPEAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

MERIDIAN STAR ✓ 2

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

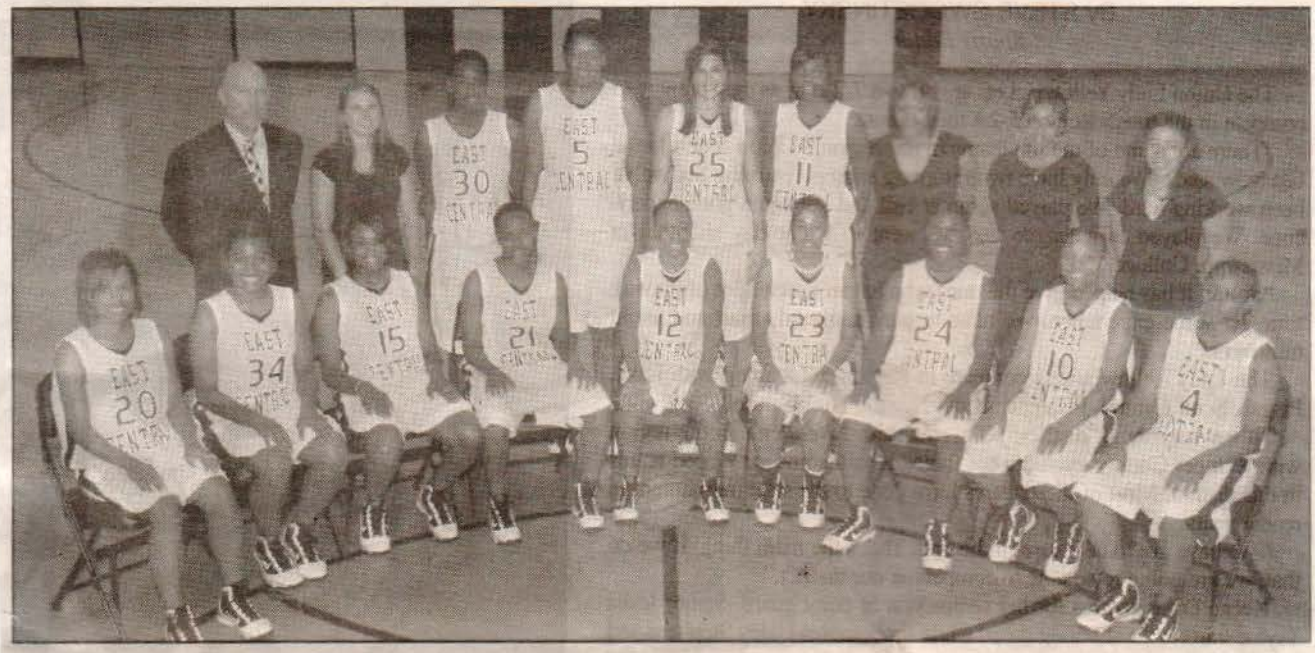
WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

take it to next level in new year

East Central Community College Warriors Basketball Team

Members of the 2009-10 Warrior basketball team at East Central Community College in Decatur and their respective high schools include (seated, from left) guards Jasper Bronson (22) of Forest Hill, Victor Taylor (14) of Noxubee County, Joshua Carothers (20) of Columbus, Keondre Hodges (21) and Antonio Grace (11), both of Newton, Shelton Banks (15) of Morton, Kendrick McKee (32) of Scott Central and Steve Edwards (34), Newton; and (back row, from left) head coach Maurice Bowie, manager Darius Walker of Newton County; guard Kenneth Thomas (3) of Provine, forward Titus Mims (23) of Alief Hastings (Houston, Texas), forward/center Aquill Baynard (10) of Elsik (Houston, Texas), forward Jonathan McLenden (30) of Alief Hastings (Houston, Texas), guards Greg Hodo (25) of Northwest Rankin and Kendall Jackson (31) of Columbus; manager Jeremy Jones of Newton and assistant coach Cornelius Gilleylen.



East Central Community College Lady Warriors Basketball Team

Members of the 2009-10 Lady Warrior basketball team at East Central Community College in Decatur and their respective high schools include (seated, from left) guard Shanequa Bufkin (20) and forward Quentinette Odom (34), both of Scott Central; forward Jakiala McWilliams (15), Neshoba Central; guards Alise Bryant (21) of Northwest Rankin, Yolanda Jones (12) of Lake, Sierra Croff (23) of Newton County, Danielle Cole (24) of Philadelphia, Shantel Neely (10) of Searcy (Searcy, Ark.), and Demetria Slocum (4) of Bradford (Starke, Fla); and (back row, from left) head coach Bill Smith, assistant coach Kristin Chaney, forward Sharae Pigues (30) of Olive Branch, center Bianca Thomas (5) of Sebastopol, guard Hannah Lee (25) of Leake Academy, forward Xenobia Lavender (11) of Noxapater

ECCC

Continued from page 10

istered a key win over Itawamba (68-63), coached by Bowie's former boss and ECCC head coach, Marty Cooper. The Warriors followed the Itawamba victory by losing a nail-biter to East Mississippi (78-75) and falling to Northeast (79-71). The Warriors snapped their two-game skid by hanging on to clip Copiah-Lincoln (80-77) in the MACJC South Division opener for both teams last week in Decatur.Bowie describes this year's squad as "very fast and smart" and one that "makes good decisions on and off the court."

"I love the way my guys catch on to things and pick them up the first time around, he said. "They have a good basketball IQ and know what's going on when they are on the court."

"I know we are not going to over-power anybody with strength or size," Bowie added, "but, although small, we are a smart team and very disciplined."

Bowie said his goals this year are "to graduate all our sophomores and give it all we've got every day or night and play for a championship."

Only three sophomores return from last year's squad, but Bowie said all three will be considered "captains and supervisors."

"Each player has a different job to do and each one has definitely taken the bull by the horns and embraced his position and goal," he said.

Returnees are point guard Antonio Grace (5-7) and shooting guard Steve Edwards (6'), both products of Newton High School; and guard Kenneth Thomas (6-4) of Jackson Provine.

Bowie is also complimentary of his freshman players.

"I'm very pleased with the players we recruited this year because they all want to be a part of something special and are willing to work hard to get it," Bowie said. "Not all kids are going to put in the work, but this group has gone beyond what we asked them to do."

Freshman squad members are guards Joshua Carothers (5-8) and Kendall Jackson (6-1), both of Columbus, Kenondre Hodges (5-11) of Newton, Jasper Bronson (6') of Forest Hill, Greg Hodo (6-3) of Northwest Rankin and Kendrick McKee of Scott Central; shooting guard Victor Taylor (6') of Noxubee; point guard Shelton Banks (5-9) of Morton; forwards Titus Mims (6-7) and Jonathan McLenden (6-7), both products of Alief Hasting High School in Houston, Texas; and forward/center Aquill Baynard (6-7) of Jackson Provine. "I just can't say enough how hard these guys have worked…I hope fans will be pleased with the product we put on the floor this year," he said.

Cornelius Gilleylen begins his second year as Bowie's assistant.

EC squads begin competition in 2010 by battling Delgado Community College Thursday, Jan. 7 in the Brackeen-Wood Physical Education Building. The women's game begins at 6 p.m. followed by the men's contest at 8 p.m. The Lady Warriors and Warriors host Coahoma Saturday, Jan. 9; with game times set at 2 and 4 p.m.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

NEWTON COUNTY APPEAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

EC teams mus

With one game remaining in 2009 for East Central Community College's basketball squads, both head coaches agree their respective squads are "playing well" but will need to "kick it up a notch" when action resumes in 2010.

Bill Smith, who is in his fifth year as Lady Warrior head coach, said he is basically pleased with his squad, which sports a winning record going into Thursday's year-ending battle with Itawamba Community College in Fulton, a team the Lady Warriors defeated by five points earlier this season.

"So far this season has been a successful one in the fact that we have gone 6-3," Smith said. "I think the team has played really hard and won a couple of games by sheer effort."

Smith said this week's rematch with the Lady Indians "will be a tough one on the road…we need to get this one so we can go into the break on a high note."

He added, "We will be deep into division play once we get back after Christmas…and that will be what really matters as we try to make the state and region playoffs."The Lady Warriors swept their season series with Holmes (82-74, 70-41), defeated Coahoma (69-56) and Itawamba (86-81), split decisions with Northeast and East Mississippi and fell to Copiah-Lincoln. The EC women were clipped 58-56 by the Lady Lions in Scooba but avenged that loss with a 72-64 decision in Decatur. The Lady Warriors pounded Northeast 81-59 at home but were later edged 75-74 by the Lady Tigers in Booneville. The undefeated Lady Wolves, ranked sixth in the latest NJCAA poll, cruised to an 86-66 victory over the EC women in the MACJC South Division opener for both teams last week in Decatur.One of Smith's main goals this season is another return to the post-season and to capture another championship. The 2007-08 squad won the Region 23 title and advanced to the NJCAA Tournament in Salina, Kansas, finishing at 22-8. The Lady Warriors were ranked as high as ninth in the NJCAA poll. The 2008-09 team advanced to post-season play and finished 17-10.

The success of this year's squad will depend on the leadership and abilities of his four returnees, who include guards Hannah Lee (5-11) of Leake Academy, Danielle Cole (5-7) of Philadelphia, Yolanda Jones (5-5) of Lake and Sierra Croff (5-4), a product of Newton County High School.

With only four sophomores, Smith said the team's success will also be determined on how the freshmen perform.

"I hope they (freshmen) can adjust to the college game in a hurry," Smith said of the nine freshmen, his largest group since taking over the women's program in 2005. "They will have to contribute early for us to be successful."

Newcomers include guards Alise Bryant (5-4) of Northwest Rankin, Shanequa Bufkin (5-3) of Scott Central, Shantel Neely (5-3) of Searcy, Ark. and Demetria Slocum (5-5) of Bradford, Fla.; forwards Xenobia Lavender (5-11) of Noxapater, Jakiala McWilliams (5-7) of Neshoba Central, Quentinette Odom (5-8) of Scott Central and Sharae Pigue (5-10) of Olive Branch; and center Bianca Thomas (6-3) of Sebastopol.

Kristin Chaney begins her second year as Smith's assistant.

Fourth-year head Maurice Bowie, whose Warriors are 4- overall and more importantly 1-0 in division competition, says his guys "are really playing tough" and will hopefully continue their aggressive play.

"We are getting up and down the court well and our shooting has really improved, especially the last few games," Bowie commented.

After starting the season with narrow losses to Holmes (78-69) and East Mississippi (63-56), EC responded with consecutive wins over Northeast (63-57) and Coahoma (77 in OT). EC lost its rematch with Holmes (86-78) then

ECCC drops two at Itawamba

By Marty Stamper
Appeal Sports Editor

The East Central Community College basketball teams wrapped up first semester play at Fulton on Thursday where they were swept by Itawamba.

The EC women fell to 6-4 with their loss, while the EC men dipped to 4-6.

The previous week, the EC teams split their MACJC South Division openers with Copiah-Lincoln with the Warriors winning 80-77 and the Lady Warriors losing 86-66.

EC squads return to action following the Christmas break by hosting Delgado Community College on January 7. The women's game begins at 6 p.m. following by the men's at 8 p.m.

Co-Lin	**86**
EC women	**66**

The Lady Warriors played with the nationally-ranked Lady Wolves for a half in the December 3 contest at Decatur, but a 46-30 Co-Lin advantage over the final 20 minutes turned the game into a blowout.

EC only trailed the fifth-ranked Lady Wolves 40-36 going into halftime.

Former Leake Academy standout Hannah Lee led EC with 21 points. The Lady Warriors also got 10 points each from Danielle Cole and Demetria Slocum, six from Shantel Neely, and five each from Yolanda Jones and Quentinette Odom.

EC fell to 6-3 overall and 0-1 in division play.

Latoria Holder and Rachel Vigers both had 22 points to lead Co-Lin, which improved to 9-0 and 1-0.

EC men	**80**
Co-Lin	**77**

The Warriors nearly squandered a 15-point halftime lead in the December 3 contest at Decatur, but Steve Edwards drained two free throws with six seconds remaining to give EC an 80-77 lead and the Warriors held on to win.

The Warriors improved to 4-5 overall and 1-0 in the division under fourth-year head coach Maurice Bowie.

EC held a 50-35 advantage at halftime.

Edwards, a 6-foot sophomore guard from Newton, led the Warriors with 32 points. He made 11-of-18 field goals and connected on 8-of-13 shots from 3-point range. He also had five rebounds.

EC also got 16 points from Antonio Grace of Newton, eight each from Kendall Jackson and Aquill Baynard, and seven from Titus Mims. Jackson also had eight rebounds.

Marcus Hooten tossed in 32 points to lead Co-Lin, which fell to 2-7 and 0-1.

Itawamba	**92**
EC women	**81**

The Lady Indians took a 44-31 lead into halftime Thursday at Fulton as they dropped EC to 6-4.

Hannah Lee had 13 points to lead EC. The Lady Warriors also got 12 points each from Demetria Slocum and Yolanda Jones, 10 from Danielle Cole, seven from Shanequa Bufkin, six from Quentinette Odom, and five from Shantel Neely.

Vetorra Cole scored 18 points to lead Itawamba, 7-4. The Lady Indians also got 17 points from Anna Dill, and 14 from Lori Crudup.

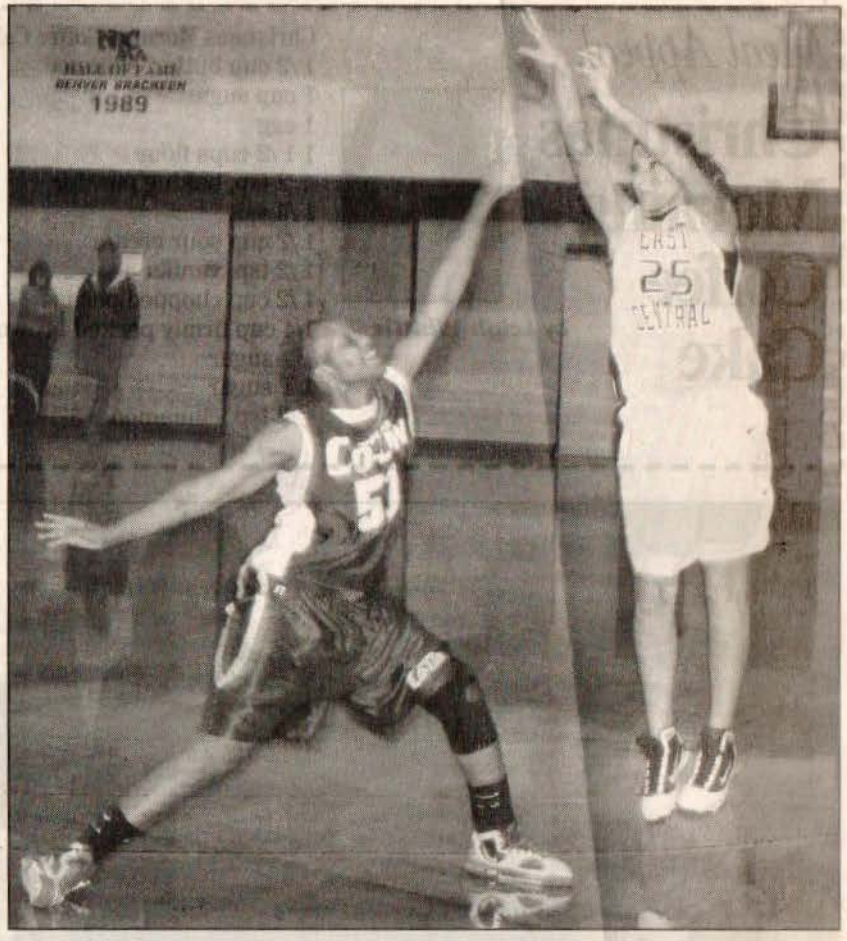
Itawamba	**82**
EC men	**66**

The Indians avenged an earlier loss to the Warriors with the 16-points win at Fulton on Thursday.

Itawamba took a 39-29 lead into halftime.

Steve Edwards, a sophomore guard from Newton, led EC, 4-6, with 20 points. The Warriors also got 13 points from Aquill Baynard, 11 from Kenny Thomas, nine from Keondre Hodges, and six from Titus Mims.

Itawamba, 7-3, was led by Melvin Morgan's 24 points. The Indians also got 21 points from Wesley McIntosh and 10 from Akeem Cadell.



ECCC's Hannah Lee shoots in a recent loss to Copiah-Lincoln.
ECCC photo by Marty Stamper

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL
CLARION-LEDGER
SPIRIT OF MORTON
MERIDIAN STAR

WEEK OF 12-28-09

Lady Warriors earn win

FROM STAFF REPORTS

FULTON — It was payback time for the Itawamba Community College basketball squads who avenged earlier season losses to East Central Community College's Lady Warriors and Warriors on December 10 in the final games of 2009.

The Lady Indians wasted little time in successfully avenging their previous setback as they jumped out to a 44-31 halftime advantage and cruised 92-81 in the non-division matchup.

Hannah Lee had 13 points to lead EC which fell to 6-4 overall under fifth-year head coach Bill Smith.

Also scoring were Demetria Slocum and Yolanda Jones of Lake, 12 each; Danielle Cole, 10; Shanequa Bufkin, seven, and Quentinette Odom, six, both of Scott Central; Shantel Neely, five; Sierra Croff, four; and Alise Bryant, two. Bufkin and Cole led in rebounds with four each.

The Lady Warriors posted an 86-81 decision over the Itawamba women November 14 in Decatur.

In the men's contest, Itawamba responded to its earlier 68-63 loss to the Warriors by an 82-66 score, as "mentor" Marty Cooper defeated his former ICC assistant Maurice Bowie who was also a standout for Cooper when he coached at ECCC. Bowie, a Morton graduate, is in his fourth year as the Warriors' head coach.

Steve Edwards had 20 points to lead the Warriors, who dropped to 4-6.

Other point makers were Aquill Baynard, 13; Kenny Thomas, 11; Keondre Hodges, nine; Titus Mims, six; Kendall Jackson, four; Antonio Grace, two; and Jonathan McLenden, one.

ECCC squads return to action Thursday, January 7 by hosting Delgado Community College.

The women's game begins at 6 p.m. followed by men's action at 8 p.m. in the Brackeen-Wood Physical Education Building.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

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MERIDIAN STAR _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES ✓

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF 12-28-09

East Central Community College Warriors

Members of the 2009-10 East Central Community College Warriors basketball team are (seated from left) Jasper Bronson, Victor Taylor, Joshua Carothers, Keondre Hodges, Antonio Grace, Shelton Banks, Kendrick McKee, and Steve Edwards. Standing are head coach Maurice Bowie, manager Darius Walker, Kenneth Thomas, Titus Mims, Aquill Baynard, Jonathan McLenden, Greg Hodo, Kendall Jackson, manager Jeremy Jones, and assistant coach Cornelius Gilleylen. The Warriors enter 2010 with a 4-6 record.

ECCC photo

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN ____
NEWTON COUNTY APPEAL ____
SPIRIT OF MORTON ____
MERIDIAN STAR ____
OBA DEMOCRAT ____
T COUNTY TIMES ____
OUNTY JOURNAL ____
CLARION-LEDGER ____

WEEK OF 12-28-09

East Central Community College Lady Warriors

Members of the 2009-10 East Central Community College Lady Warriors' basketball team are (seated from left) Shanequa Bufkin, Quentinette Odom, Jakiala McWilliams, Alise Bryant, Yolanda Jones, Sierra Croff, Danielle Cole, Shantel Neely, and Demetria Slocum. Standing are head coach Bill Smith, assistant coach Kristin Chaney, Sharae Pigues, Bianca Thomas, Hannah Lee, Xenobia Lavender, and managers Mercedes Brown, Lanie Triplett, and Tybrica Odom. The Lady Warriors enter 2010 with a 6-4 record.

ECCC photo

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN ____
NEWTON COUNTY AP
SPIRIT OF MORTON ____
MERIDIAN STAR ____

SHOBA DEMOCRAT ____
OTT COUNTY TIMES ____
COUNTY JOURNAL ____
CLARION-LEDGER ____

WEEK OF 1-12-09

Faculty / Administration

ECCC's Sutphin to serve on southern college commission

By COURTNEY ROBINSON
crobinson@sctonline.net

DECATUR — Dr. Phil Sutphil, president of East Central Community College has been elected to serve on the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools' (SACS) Commission on College.

Sutphin, along with Dr. Scott Elliot of Meridian, were elected to the commission by the College Delegate Assembly in the annual meeting of SACS, which took place in San Antonio last month.

SACS, based out of Decatur, GA, is a commission responsible for establishing standards on regional accreditation through continual and periodic evaluations for its member colleges and universities. The commission sets standards for approximately 800 colleges through the southern United States.

As a commissioner, Sutphin will help formulate the accreditation policies and forward proposed accreditation changes on standards to member institutions.

Sutphin said he was "honored" to have been elected to the Commission and would do his best to represent the interests of Mississippi's secondary educational institutions, as well as working for the interests of SACS member institutions. In his first official duty, Sutphin will participate in a new commissioner orientation this May in Atlanta.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES ✓

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

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NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

College Visitors / Events / News

WEEK OF 1-12-09

ECCC offering special rate to assist laid off workers

East Central Community College in Decatur is offering a special "two-for-one" rate for designated academic and technical courses for the 2009 spring semester in an effort to assist dislocated workers, including those from Pearl River Resort, who were affected by a struggling economy.

Meanwhile, The Neshoba Democrat will offer free work wanted classified ads to laid off Pearl River Resort workers to help mitigate the impact of income loss on the local economy, the newspaper announced.

The ads are limited to 25 words, will run for four weeks and can be renewed. Call 601-656-4000 or go to neshobademocrat.com/classifieds.

ECCC President Dr. Phil A. Sutphin announced the historic move specifically in the wake of the more than 1,500 unemployed workers residing in the college's five-county district who are no longer employed due to industry and business closings or downsizing, and other factors affecting the economy.

The special "two-for-one" rate also encourages other prospective part-time students to enroll in college classes.

"We sympathize with those who have lost their jobs and want to do all we can to help these valuable members of the workforce either learn a new trade or continue their education and earn a degree," said Dr. Sutphin. "Hopefully by reducing the cost of college courses, many of the dislocated workers and as well others interested in taking college classes will take advantage of the special rate and can work toward starting new careers."

Members of the College's Workforce Development staff and other college officials met with approximately 500 dislocated workers at a rapid response meeting last week at the Choctaw Hospitality Institute in Choctaw. It was recently announced that nearly 600 workers lost jobs at the Golden Moon Resort and Casino located on the Pearl River Resort in Choctaw.

To qualify for the 2009 Spring Incentive Two-for-One program, students must first enroll in one or two courses offered either on the Decatur campus or any off-campus location, and then select an additional free course from a "designated" list of classes. The incentive program applies to part-time students only – those who enroll in no more than 11 hours of semester credit. (See related story page 2A for more information)

Persons seeking employment in Neshoba and other area counties are also invited to the East Central Mississippi Job Fair on Feb. 12 in the county coliseum.

Over 15 employers will be in attendance to provide information about employment opportunities from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Employers from Neshoba, Lauderdale, Newton, Kemper, Winston and Leake counties will have booths set up, said David Vowell, president of the Community Development Partnership.

Other economic developers from those counties are working in conjunction with East Central Community College, the WIN Job Center, Pearl River Resort, and the Governor's Office of Job Fair Network to bring the job fair to the area to help people seeking employment opportunities.

Organizers are also making arrangements to provide transportation from area counties to the coliseum for the job fair, Vowell said.

Hopefully, that will be worked out later this month, he said.

Information on the job fair as well as other economic opportunities were also outlined last week at the Choctaw Hospitality Institute for employees affected by the recent layoffs at Pearl River Resort.

A numbers of those employees signed up to attend the first of several testing sessions Thursday for potential employment with the U. S. Census Bureau, Vowell said.

The testing sessions will be held in the Neshoba Business Enterprise Center.

Others who would like to sign up for future testing should call 1-866-861-2010.

"The Census positions are expected to pay between $8 and $17 an hour," Vowell said. "Some will entail about five weeks of work while others positions will last about two years."

Laid off workers were also encouraged to call the Mississippi Employment Security Commission at 1-888-844-3577 to file for unemployment benefits.

MESC will offer workshops at a later date at CHI in regards to resume preparations and jobs search skills training and perhaps other training classes as well.

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT ✓

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

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WEEK OF 1-12-09

ECCC offers course discount

In an effort to assist dislocated workers affected by a struggling economy and to encourage other prospective part-time students to enroll in college classes, East Central Community College in Decatur is offering a special "two-for-one" rate for designated academic and technical courses for the 2009 spring semester.

ECCC President Dr. Phil A. Sutphin announced the historic move specifically in the wake of the more than 1,500 unemployed workers residing in the College's five-county district who are no longer employed due to industry and business closings or downsizing, and other factors affecting the economy.

"We sympathize with those who have lost their jobs and want to do all we can to help these valuable members of the workforce either learn a new trade or continue their education and earn a degree," said Dr. Sutphin. "Hopefully by reducing the cost of college courses, many of the dislocated workers and as well others interested in taking college classes will take advantage of the special rate and can work toward starting new careers."

Members of the College's Workforce Development staff and other College officials met with approximately 500 dislocated workers at a rapid response meeting Wednesday, Jan. 7 at the Choctaw Hospitality Institute in Choctaw. It was recently announced that nearly 600 workers lost jobs at the Golden Moon Resort and Casino located on the Pearl River Resort in Choctaw.

To qualify for the 2009 Spring Incentive Two-for-One program, students must first enroll in one or two courses offered either on the Decatur campus or any off-campus location, and then select an additional free course from a "designated" list of classes. The incentive program applies to part-time students only - those who enroll in no more than 11 hours of semester credit.

The "designated" list of classes and class locations include Hospitality and Tourism Industry, Food and Beverage Control, Introduction to Criminal Justice, American History II, Music Appreciation, General Psychology and Introduction to Sociology, all offered at the Choctaw Hospitality Institute; Emergency Medical Technician, Choctaw Fire Department; Principles of Economics, Personal and Community Health, College Study Skills and Reading Comprehension I, Philadelphia-Neshoba County Career-Technical Center; English Composition I, Human Growth and Development, Trigonometry, The Real Number System and Public Speaking I, Winston/Louisville Vocational Complex; Intermediate English, English Composition I, Music Appreciation and General Psychology, Decatur campus; World Literature II, American (U. S.) History I and Introduction to Sociology, Forest/Scott County Career and Technology Center; and English Composition I, College Algebra, Problem Solving with Real Numbers and Introduction to Sociology, Leake County Vocational Center.

Cost for academic and technical classes is $75 per academic hour or $225 for each three-hour course. Additional fees may apply for some courses.

ECCC continues to offer its "First Course Free" program, which applies to students at

See ECCC, page 6A

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT ✓

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WEEK OF 1-19-09

Cole named ECCC Practical Nursing Instructor

Theresa Cole of Hickory has joined the practical nursing program at East Central Community College in Decatur, announced Dr. Phil A. Sutphin, College president.

Cole, who began her new duties on Jan. 8, 2009, served since July 2007 as instructor for the College's Healthcare Assistant Program, which has been discontinued.

Prior to joining the ECCC staff, Cole was employed by the Woman's Group of Meridian since August 1999. She has also held nursing positions at Jeff Anderson Regional Medical Center in Meridian, Newton Regional Hospital and Laurel Wood Center in Meridian.

A graduate of Meridian High School, Cole attended Tougaloo College prior to earning an associate's degree in nursing from Meridian Community College. She has also completed additional coursework in the medical field.

She is married to the Rev. Jason Cole, pastor of Mt. Moriah M.B. Church in Newton. They have two children, Jasmin and Jason II.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

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SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON ~~RECORD~~ Appeal ✓

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF 1-19-09

Jacome-Cluff joins EC cosmetology staff

Carla Jacome-Cluff of Hickory was recently selected as an additional cosmetology instructor at East Central Community College.

Jacome-Cluff, who began her new duties on Jan. 8, 2009, has owned and operated Carla's Chop Shop in Hickory for the past eight years. Her work experience also includes serving as assistant director of dietary services at East Mississippi State Hospital in Meridian and customer service/operations at BORO Restaurant in Newton.

She received the Associate Degree in Liberal Arts from ECCC in 2000 and earned her cosmetology certificate from the College the same year.

Prior to moving to Mississippi, she earned coursework toward an associate degree in nursing from the University of Alaska.

She is married to Kelly Cluff, who teaches computer network support technology at the College. They have two daughters, Emily, 14, and Katherine, 13, who both attend Newton County Schools.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

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WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

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WEEK OF 1-26-09

Cohen to speak at EC

FROM STAFF REPORTS

DECATUR—First-year Mississippi State University head baseball coach John Cohen will be the featured speaker for the third annual First-Pitch Dinner scheduled Saturday at East Central Community College in Decatur.

The program begins at 6:30 p.m. and will be held in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria. Tickets are $20 for adults and $10 for ages 12 and under.

Diamond Warrior head coach Neal Holliman, who is in his third year at the helm, invites the public to attend the annual pre-season activity and meet the new Bulldog head mentor.

"We are extremely excited to have Coach Cohen visit our campus and serve as guest speaker for our annual First-Pitch Dinner," said Holliman, who led the Diamond Warriors to the 2007 state title in his first year.

"This is always a great night for our fans, parents and players to come together and experience the excitement for the upcoming season," Holliman said.

"We usually have about 275 in attendance and we are sure this year will not be any different with such a noted speaker as Coach Cohen joining us for the evening."

Over the past five years, Cohen has become a "hot commodity" on the baseball speaking circuit and has shared his baseball knowledge with more than 100 groups over the past five years, according to the MSU Web site.

Cohen was selected to lead the MSU baseball program on June 7, 2008. He served the previous five years as head coach at the University of Kentucky.

Cohen, who was tapped the 2006 Southeastern

See COHEN, 11A

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES ✓

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

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1-26-09

Cohen

From Page 12A

Conference Coach of the Year and National Coach of the Year by the College Baseball Foundation and CollegeBaseballinsider.com, led Kentucky to a pair of NCAA Regional appearances in their last three seasons. He also led the Wildcats to their first-ever Southeastern Conference Championship in 2006.

During his five-year tenure at UK, Cohen's teams compiled a 175-113-1 (.607) record and posted a pair of 44-win campaigns - the most wins in school history.

Cohen

The Tuscaloosa, Ala., native served as an assistant baseball coach at the University of Florida for two seasons prior to taking over the Kentucky program. He was head coach at Northwestern State University in Natchitoches, La., from 1998-2001 and led the Demons to two Southland Conference titles. He received conference coach of the year honors following the 1998 and 2001 championship season. He began his coaching career as an assistant at the University of Missouri, where he served from 1992-97.

Cohen was a standout for the MSU Bulldogs from 1988-90 under legendary coach Ron Polk. The Bulldogs advanced to an NCAA Regional during each of Cohen's three years on the squad, capped by a berth in the 1990 College World Series. In 1989, he helped lead the Diamond Dogs to the SEC Championship. Cohen finished his career ranked in the top 10 in several statistical categories at Mississippi State.

He received first-team All-SEC honors as a senior and was chosen by the Minnesota Twins in the 22nd round of the 1990 Major League draft. He spent two years in the Twin's minor league system prior to beginning his coaching career.

He was a two-sport athlete at Tuscaloosa Academy from where he graduated in 1986.

Cohen and his wife Nelle have two daughters - Jordan Baker and Avery Lawson.

ECCC begins its 2009 baseball season by hosting Bevill-Fayette Community College in doubleheader action getting under way at 1 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 4 at the Clark/Gay Baseball Complex.

To purchase tickets or for more information contact ECCC Head Baseball Coach Neal Holliman, 601-635-2111 or call toll free, 1-877-462-3222, ext. 374. His e-mail address is nholliman@eccc.edu.

WEEK OF 1-26-09

www.meridianstar.com

Blaylock, Johnson chosen ECCC HEADWAE honorees

DECATUR – Music instructor Vicki Blaylock of Newton and sophomore engineering major Daniel Johnson of Union will represent East Central Community College at a program that recognizes outstanding faculty members and students.

The annual HEADWAE (Higher Education Appreciation Day – Working Toward Academic Excellence) observance is scheduled Feb. 26, in Jackson. Activities begin at the State Capitol and conclude with an awards luncheon at the Marriott Hotel.

HEADWAE was established in 1988 by state lawmakers as a means of recognizing outstanding faculty members and students representing the state's public and private institutions of higher learning. As lieutenant governor, Phil Bryant chairs the prestigious event.

Blaylock, who serves as vocal/choral music instructor, began her employment at ECCC in August 2000. In addition to teaching, she serves as director of the Ac'cents, the College's show choir and the Concert Choir.

She was honored in 2003 as a "Lamplighter," an annual program that recognizes the state's outstanding community and junior college instructors.

Prior to joining the ECCC staff, Blaylock was music instructor for grades K-12 for the Newton Public School District. She is also a former piano instructor at Winona Public Schools. She has more than 26 years experience as a music educator.

Blaylock is a member of First Baptist Church in Newton, where she is a member of the adult choir and serves as instrumental accompanist.

She also holds membership in several professional organizations, including the American Choral Directors' Association and the Mississippi Music Educators' Association.

A graduate of Eupora High School, Blaylock received a Bachelor of Music Education degree from Delta State University and a Master of Music degree from Mississippi College. She is also certified in Level 1 Kodaly instruction.

She is married to Ronnie Blaylock, District Market Manager for Wal-Mart. They have two children, Clanton, 21, and Anna-Rose, 17.

Johnson is a President's List scholar with a perfect 4.0 average.

He is a member of the Warrior Golf Team; Theta Xi Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa, the international honor society for two-year colleges; Alpha Alpha Epsilon, "The Engineers"; and Mu Alpha Theta, an organization for students interested in mathematics.

He has received several scholarships and awards, including the ECCC Presidential Scholarship, EC Scholars Scholarship, S. Lebrun Hutchison Engineering Award, Mississippi Auto Manufacturing Association Scholarship, Dr. Shelby Harris Memorial Scholarship and the Freshman Mathematics Award.

Johnson was most recently named to "Who's Who Among Students in American Junior Colleges."

He is a graduate of Union High School and the son of Burl and Denise Johnson of Union.

Blaylock

Johnson

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WEEK OF 2-5-09

Alumni / Scholarships / Homecoming

Burt family begins scholarship drive at EC

The family of 18-year old Landon Burt, who lost his life on December 19, has begun a scholarship program in his memory.

Landon's father, Bryan said in a communication last week: The message on this shirt is meant to serve as a memory of the life that Landon lived as well as the legacy that he has left. There are times whenever being dedicated to the work of the Lord can be dangerous, but we must continue to press forward to finish the work to which we are called.

Burt died in a swimming accident on the East Central community College campus. His father said, "he trying to further God's kingdom through the work of the East Central Community College Baptist Student Union."

"The purchase of a shirt will play a big part in helping to continue the work that God had begun through Landon's life," said the elder Burt.

The proceeds from the sale of the shirts will go to the ECCC Baptist Student Union to provide a scholarship.

Shirts will be $15 each and will be ready by March 1, and purchasers will be contacted at that time. The deadline for ordering shirts will be Monday, February 16, and payment should be made at time of order.

"In an effort to continue the legacy which the Lord had begun through Landon, we are selling t-shirts in memory of him to provide a scholarship to a student actively involved in the Baptist Student Union at EC," he said.

" Please feel free to email me with orders or mail them to me at PO Box 186, Hickory, MS 39332." said Burt

If you have any questions, contact the family via email or by phone at 601-553-2252, 601-646-1861, or 601-616-0288.

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WEEK OF 2-2-09

Pouncey Speaks on 'Eating Etiquette'...Retired East Central Community College instructor Alice Pouncey of Decatur recently spoke at ECCC to Lucille Wood's class about proper eating etiquette on the Decatur campus. She presented the students with information about table placement and proper eating skills. (EC Photo)

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WEEK OF 2-3-09

Foreman Retires at ECCC....Alton Foreman (right) recently retired following 27-1/2 years of service in the maintenance department at East Central Community College in Decatur. Foreman, a groundskeeper whose duties also included driving buses for the College's athletic teams, began his employment in 1981. The Little Rock resident is shown receiving a check from ECCC President Dr. Phil A. Sutphin during a retirement reception held January 23, 2009 in the Gold Room of Mabry Memorial Cafeteria. Funds were provided through contributions from College personnel. (EC Photo)

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WEEK OF 2-9-09

Workshop work

Winston Counselors Attending ECCC Workshop
Counselors representing high schools in Winston County were among participants of an annual district counselors' workshop held Thursday, Jan. 29 at Lake Tiak O' Khata in Louisville and sponsored by East Central Community College in Decatur. Seated from left are Cindy Stewart and Gloria Mason, both representing the Winston-Louisville Vocational Complex; and Lanette Hanna, ECCC academic counselor. Standing from left are Jackie Wise, Noxapater Attendance Center; Pat Fuller, Grace Christian; Lisa Wright, Winston Academy; and Danny Burns, Winston-Louisville Vocational Complex. During the one-day meeting, ECCC officials presented information on various topics, including the College's academic, technical and career programs of study, financial aid opportunities and scholarships, admissions standards and requirements, student housing, ACT Residual Testing, academic transfer programs and dual credit courses. The ECCC district includes Leake, Neshoba, Newton, Scott and Winston counties. For more information contact ECCC Student Services, 601-635-2111 or call toll free, 877-462-3222, ext. 205. (EC Photo)

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WEEK OF 2-9-09

Scott Counselors Attending ECCC Workshop

Counselors representing high schools in Scott County were among participants of an annual district counselors' workshop held Thursday, Jan. 29 at Lake Tiak O' Khata in Louisville and sponsored by East Central Community College in Decatur. Seated from left are Karen Moorehead, Forest-Scott County Career and Technology Center; and Karla Weir and Tara Upton, both of Lake High School. Stranding from left are Martha Henry, Forest High School; Melissa Frazier, Morton High School; and Michael Alexander, ECCC academic counselor. During the one-day meeting, ECCC officials presented information on various topics, including the College's academic, technical and career programs of study, financial aid opportunities and scholarships, admissions standards and requirements, ACT Residual Testing, academic transfer programs and dual credit courses. The ECCC district includes Leake, Neshoba, Newton, Scott and Winston counties. For more information contact Student Services, 601-635-2111 or call toll free, 877-462-3222, ext. 205. The e-mail address is jkillens@eccc.edu. (EC Photo)

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WEEK OF 3/2/09

ECCC music instructor presents piano recital

DECATUR — The Music Department of East Central Community College will present faculty member Len D. Bobo in a piano recital Wednesday, March 4, at 1 p.m. in the Vickers Fine Arts Center auditorium on the Decatur campus. The program is free and open to the public.

Bobo will perform selections by noted composers Fredrick Chopin, George Gershwin and others. He will conclude his performance with a medley of Broadway tunes.

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WEEK OF 3/9/09

ECCC Celebrates Black History Month

East Central Community College in Decatur held its annual Black History Month program on Feb. 25 in the Vickers Fine Arts Auditorium. The featured speaker, Brenda K. Johnson, who serves as sponsor for the ECCC Gospel Choir and assistant dormitory supervisor, spoke about how African Americans have overcome challenges throughout the progression of time. ECCC Athletic and Academic Hall of Fame member and former ECCC basketball standout the Rev. Marcus Mann served as the master of ceremonies. Mann, who played for the National Basketball Association following his college career, is the chaplain at COPAC Rehabilitation Facility and is the pastor of Sylvarena Baptist Church in Brandon. The program included special performances by ECCC Gospel Choir members. (EC Photo)

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WEEK OF 3/16/09

ECCC Conducting

SPECIAL TO THE TIMES

DECATUR—Encouraging attendance at athletic events and providing funds to improve facilities and upgrade equipment are the focus of the annual fundraising campaign under way at East Central Community College in Decatur.

The effort is being led by The Warrior Club, an organization that provides financial support to the College's athletic teams, which include football, women and men's soccer, women and men's basketball, baseball, fast-pitch softball and women and men's tennis.

In a letter addressed to current and prospective members, Warrior Club president Brenda Chaney of Little Rock, said contributions to the organization "have made a difference" in what the College is able to provide for its student-athletes.

"The contributions received over the years have been vital to the success of our athletic program and we very much appreciate the support," Chaney said.

"Even though we have made much progress, we still need other improvements in our facilities and additional athletic materials and supplies."

Approximately $6,700 has been raised since the campaign began in January 2009, according to Stacey Hollingsworth, executive director for foundation and alumni relations. Hollingsworth said the Warrior Club has collected almost $760,000 since its inception in 1989.

A "wish list" from each sports area totaling approximately $338,000 is included in a brochure with the letter.

Help sought for post season action

At the top of the list is a request for $20,000 to help pay expenses for teams qualifying for post-season play. The 2007-08 women's basketball team won the Region 23 Tournament and participated in the NJCAA Women's Basketball Championship held in Salina, Kansas.

Needs in the baseball area include renovation of the backstop ($5,000), covering

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3/16/09

Annual Athletic Fundraising Effort

of existing bleachers ($10,000) and installation of restrooms ($20,000) for a total of $35,000.

In basketball, the lone request is for new bleachers and chair back seats estimated to cost $70,000.

The College's football program lists $11,000 of improvements, including chair back seats for season ticket holders ($5,000), stadium skirt ($1,000) and sideline Astroturf ($5,000).

Items needed for the golf program include shirts/slacks/shorts ($960), rain suits ($960), bags ($900), 24 dozen golf balls ($864), three dozen gloves ($600) and pullovers ($600), for a total of $5,244.

New buildings for dressing rooms top the list of needs for the soccer program and are estimated to cost $100,000. Also needed are lights for the game pitch ($30,000), irrigation system ($25,000), expansion and covering of stadium seating ($15,000) and a practice pitch ($5,000).

Suggested improvements for the softball program include locker room and storage facility ($6,000), irrigation system ($2,500) and decks around the outfield fence ($5,000) for a total of $13,500.

Needs for the tennis program include a drinking fountain ($200), restrooms ($5,000), storage building ($1,500), practice wall ($1,000) and bleachers ($500) for total of $8,200.

Improvements needed for gymnasium

Also on the list are major athletic facility and equipment needs, which include renovation of the Brackeen-Wood Physical Education Complex to include additional seating and chair back seating ($900,000); a new field house ($2,500,000); new tennis courts ($500,000); and an athletic track ($180,000).

Warrior Club membership runs on a calendar year basis and includes the following levels of support: Super Chief ($1,000), Chief ($500), Super Brave ($250), Brave ($100), Young Brave ($50) and Papoose ($25).

Contributions are tax deductable when made payable to the East Central Community College Foundation, Inc.

For more information contact the Office of Foundation and Alumni Relations, 601-635-2111 or call toll free, 877-462-3222, ext. 327. The e-mail address is sholling@eccc.edu.

WEEK OF 3/23/09

ECCC's HEADWAE HONOREES

East Central Community College sophomore Daniel Johnson of Union (seated left) and music instructor Vicki Blaylock of Newton (seated right) were among the state's outstanding students and faculty members who received special recognition from the Mississippi Legislature during the 22nd Annual Higher Education Appreciation Day – Working Toward Academic Excellence (HEADWAE) program. Seventy-two outstanding students and faculty members from 36 Mississippi public and private colleges and universities were honored at this year's event, which began with activities at the State Capitol and concluded with an awards luncheon at the Marriott Hotel in downtown Jackson. Shown with the honorees are ECCC President Dr. Phil A. Sutphin (seated) and (standing from left) Lt. Gov. Phil Bryant, HEADWAE chair who served master of ceremonies at the luncheon; Johnson's parents, Burl and Denise Johnson; and Blaylock's husband, Ronnie. HEADWAE was established in 1988 by the legislative resolution to honor individual academic achievement and the overall contribution of the state's public and private institutions of higher learning.

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WEEK OF 3/23/09

Cox is EC Police Chief

William "Bill" Cox of Philadelphia was recently selected Chief of Police at East Central Community College in Decatur, announced Dr. Phil A. Sutphin, ECCC president.

Cox, who begins his duties on April 1, has served as deputy sheriff for the Neshoba County Sheriff's Department since 2005. He is also a former police officer for the Philadelphia and Olive Branch police departments.

Dr. Sutphin said Cox was chosen for the new position due to his "experience and the match between his skills and the requirements for the position."

"Chief Cox began his law enforcement career in an urban police force, moved to a rural police force, and then while serving as deputy sheriff he was a school resource officer dealing with students and parents in an educational environment," said Dr. Sutphin. "During his tenure as a deputy sheriff, he was named to the DUI 100 Club by the Mississippi Department of Public Safety

for his record in enforcing DUI laws. While a uniformed officer with the Olive Branch Police Department, he received the Distinguished Service Commendation."

Cox is an ordained minister and previously served as pastor of several Church of God churches. He is a member of the Contemporary Christian group "Canaan," and he and his wife, Britta, own the River of Life Christian Bookstore in Philadelphia.

Cox and his wife have four children, Carrigan, 12; Loralee, 11; Connor, seven; and Sam, four.

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WEEK OF 3/30/09

Championship, for expansion

Van Lucas of Newton were welcomed as new members of the ECCC Board of Trustees at the group's February meeting. Ladner joined the Board following his election as Leake County Superintendent of Schools. Prior to taking office, Ladner served as director of vocational-technical education for Leake County for 17 years. Lucas was appointed to the Board to complete the unexpired term of Bill Thames. Lucas is a longtime employee of Newton County Bank, currently serving as senior vice president, board treasurer and branch manager of the Scanlan Street office.

Board of Trustees officers who began serving two-year terms included Prentice Coleman, chairman, of Philadelphia; Jack Winstead, vice chairman, of Lawrence; and Royce Shaw, secretary, of Forest. Copeland began his seventh two-year term as chairman and Winstead began his fifth term as vice chairman. Shaw began his third term as secretary.

Pat Ross, Newton County Superintendent of Education, was welcomed as a new member of the ECCC Board of Trustees. Ross served as principal for Northwest Junior High School in Meridian prior to assuming his duties as superintendent.

ECCC honored staff members with 20-22 years of service during the annual "Appreciation Tea." Those honored include Fredrick Lyons of Decatur, carpentry/cabinetmaking instructor and assistant football coach, 20 years; Kathy George, also of Decatur, early childhood education instructor, 22 years; Polly Mayes of Newton, drafting and design technology instructor, 21 years; Bubby Johnston, vice president for public information, 21 years; and Burma Weidler also of Decatur, assistant to the director of financial aid, 20 years.

ECCC students and numerous visitors from off-campus.

ECCC athletes, Darron Maxtion of Ardmore, Ala.; Tanesha Brown of Jackson; and Mark Wilson of Delhi, La., were selected to play in the Mississippi Association of Community and Junior Colleges (MACJC) All-Star Basketball Games on April 1. The annual event is held at Choctaw Central High School and hosted by ECCC.

ECCC students took top honors in numerous categories at the State Phi Beta Lambda Leadership Conference held in Tupelo. The students placed first in 11 events, finished second in five categories, had four third-place award winners and posted six fourth-place finishes. Theta Chi chapter was also selected as one of two Gold Seal Chapters in Mississippi and was recognized as a Foundation member.

Josh Dickerson of Union served as Phi Beta Lambda State Parliamentarian for 2008-09. He was appointed to the position after scoring the highest mark on the Parliamentary Procedure Test at the organization's state conference.

ECCC student, Brooks Mayes of Newton, was awarded the Rufus T. Jones Scholarship at the annual State Phi Beta Lambda Leadership Conference. Mayes is the lone PBL member in the state to receive the award, which was established to recognize Jones' years of outstanding service and dedication to Mississippi Future Business Leaders of America and Phi Beta Lambda. Mayes also received various awards at the state competition and competed along with other ECCC students at the National PBL Leadership Conference.

Named to Who's Who in Phi Beta Lambda were ECCC students Leslie Nash of Union, Terry Smith of Louisville and Brooks Mayes of Newton.

Senior Days were held April 1-2, 2008 with ECCC hosting 928 high school students from the five-county district, an attendance increase of approximately 130 students compared to the 2007 event.

ECCC hosted the Business, Education and Healthcare Expo April 3 on the Decatur campus. The annual event attracted 50-plus vendors, approximately 300

Tyler Walters, a graduate of Forest High School, and Julie Gaines, a graduate of Neshoba Central High School, were selected Mr. and Miss East Central Community College. Walters, a secondary education major, is the son of Roger and Lisa Walters of Forest. Gaines, a physical therapy major, is the daughter of Keith and Rita Gaines of Philadelphia.

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3/30/09

ECCC celebrates enrollment, plans

SPECIAL TO THE TIMES

DECATUR — East Central Community College in Decatur boasted a successful year in 2008 not only within athletics and the continued development of the College, but also with plans for the future.

The year was marked with achievement in early spring as the Lady Warrior Basketball team claimed the Region 23 Championship following their 67-62 victory over Holmes Community College on March 6, 2008 at Mississippi College's A. E. Wood Coliseum in Clinton. The ECCC women advanced to the 2008 NJCAA Division I Women's Basketball Championship in Salina, Kansas and finished the season at 22-8 under third-year head coach Bill Smith.

The College was not only successful on the court, but also accomplished increasing enrollment with the second highest in the College's history during the fall 2008 semester. The drive for higher education continues to increase and with that force the enrollment for classes reached 2,640 students for just 99 students shy of the College's highest enrollment of 2,739 reached in 2004. Three hundred fifty one students from Scott county were enrolled during the Fall 2008 semester.

Prospective college students continually feel the need for higher education with the demands of the workforce, ECCC President Dr. Phil A. Sutphin said.

"As the economy changes more individuals see the benefits of post-secondary educational opportunities," Dr. Sutphin said. "Employees must compete on a global scale for jobs and the kind of educational opportunities available at EC will give employees the tools to compete."

With the opening door of educational opportunities, EC maintains options for students in all areas, Dr. Sutphin said.

"Students may come to EC for several reasons," Dr. Sutphin said. "Some may want to take a few classes to improve specific skills or knowledge; others may want to obtain a degree in a skill area to move directly into the workforce, while others may want the first two years of a bachelor's degree. The College also provides workforce training opportunities to help employees and employers improve in specific areas that are critical to success in today's economy."

Looking forward

Another element of the successful drive of ECCC is preparing for future and current needs of the College. Plans are underway for a new science building. The building was named the Aaron R. Davis Science Building in honor of longtime science instructor Ron Davis. Davis, who taught general biology, zoology, and human anatomy and physiology classes for 19 years at East Central, lost his two-year battle with cancer on April 21, 2006. Plans to commence construction of the building is set for mid August 2009.

Other highlights from 2008 at ECCC include:

Spring 2008

Bruce Guraedy retired after 33 years of service at East Central as an art instructor. Guraedy began his employment at East Central in 1975 after receiving a master's degree in art education from the University of Southern Mississippi, where he also received a bachelor's degree in art. The Forest Hill High School graduate later completed additional studies at Mississippi State University and Mississippi College.

Following a 20-year career in education, the last nine years of which he has served as an English instructor at ECCC, Tony Kinton of Carthage retired. Kinton began his employment at the College in 1999 as choral music instructor. He also served as director of the Concert Choir and ECCC Showchoir, the Ac'cents.

ECCC recognized former Board of Trustee members Melanie Hartley and Ken Pouncey for their years of service on the Board. Hartley served from 2001 to 2007 as the superintendent of education for Leake County. Pouncey served on the Board for Newton County on three separate occasions: 1984-85, 1988 and 2006-07.

Tanya Boler of Conehatta and Christy Ferguson of Philadelphia were selected Academic and Career-Technical Instructors of the Year, respectively for East Central. An English instructor, Boler has been employed at ECCC since 2002 and teaches English Composition I and II and American Literature I and II. Ferguson joined the ECCC staff in 1999 and serves as a Business and Office Technology instructor. She teaches courses in medical transcription, machine transcription, microcomputer applications, desktop publishing, integrated computer applications, keyboarding and electronic spreadsheet.

East Central welcomed new staff and faculty members and other employees changed positions. New staff members and others changing job positions include: Brian Anderson, assistant football coach; David Blackledge, physical plant director; Brent Gregory, dislocated worker coordinator; Chris Harris, director of personnel services/athletic director; Alexei Huguley, culinary arts technology instructor; Kyle James, information technology specialist; Deborah Lucroy, secretary to the physical plant director; Betsy Mann, dean of healthcare education; Jonathan Peeples, director of student life/recruiter; Paula Russum, associate degree nursing instructor; Christy Savell, associate degree nursing instructor; and Amanda Walton, secretary to the athletic director/ director of personnel services.

East Central honored the memory of Bill Thames of Newton with a resolution for his 11 years of service to the College as a member of the ECCC Board of Trustees prior to his death on Dec. 26, 2007. College President Dr. Phil A. Sutphin presented the plaque to Thames' widow, Bett Thames during the Board's March 11, 2008 luncheon/meeting held on the Decatur campus.

Monte Ladner of Carthage and

3/30/09

increases in past year

ECCC hosted Spring Spree activities during the week of April 21-25, 2008, which included a volleyball tournament, field games, a crawfish boil and a spring formal. Approximately 140 students participated in the event.

The annual Award's Day event for ECCC was held May 1, 2008 in Huff Auditorium on the Decatur campus. The program recognized more than 100 award recipients. The highlight of the event was the presentation of the inductees to the 2008 Hall of Fame, the highest honor a student can receive at the College. Hall of Fame members include Ashley Henley, Jonathan Jackson and Noah Cook, all of Hickory, Beth Alexander of Little Rock, Julie Gaines of Philadelphia and Dru Anderson of Decatur.

ECCC students, Beth Alexander of Little Rock and Jonathan Jackson of Hickory were named to the 2008 Phi Theta Kappa All-Mississippi Academic Teams. Alexander, a communications major, was among 15 students named to the First Team and received a $1,000 stipend. Jackson, liberal arts major, was named to the Second Team.

Graduation for the Class of 2008 was held May 10 at the Neshoba County Coliseum. A total of 474 students graduated with more than 300 participating in the ceremony.

(Higher Education Appreciation Day: Working Toward Academic Excellence) Instructor and Student of the Year, respectively, for 2007-08. Clayton began her employment at ECCC in August 2004 after serving the previous 20 years as a science teacher on the high school level. Lawrence, a 46-year-old nontraditional student, is a President's List Scholar with a perfect 4.0 grade point average.

A scholarship in memory of Lee E. Johnson and Lizzie Graham Johnson has been endowed at ECCC. The Johnson Family Engineering Scholarship was established by the couple's children, Joe Lee and Ollie J. Johnson, John and Elsie Johnson Hollingsworth, Charlie R. Johnson and Danny E. Johnson.

A scholarship in memory of Andrew Wilson Lathem was established at ECCC. Lathem was the eighth child of William Andrew and Mattie Brantley Lathem of Sebastopol and was the only one of 10 children to attend college.

The Classes of 1957, 1958 and 1959, who met annually during Homecoming activities, established a scholarship to assist students and college expenses. The group has held reunions for nearly 10 years.

The ECCC soccer teams were recognized for their academic success by the National Junior College Athletic Association (NJCAA). The Warriors posted a 3.02 grade point average during the fall term, placing second in the nation for the NJCAA. The Lady Soccer Warriors achieved a 3.25 grade point average for the fall semester and finished fourth in the nation. This is the third consecutive year the Lady Soccer Warriors have finished among the top five in the academic competition.

ECCC began a four-day week schedule for the two summer 2008 terms offered at the College as a cost-saving measure for students and faculty.

Numerous students representing ECCC won honors at the annual Mississippi SkillsUSA Championships. First-place winners include: Crystal McGee of Philadelphia, Brandi Carter of Louisville and Krystle Walker of Newton, Occupational Health Safety Single; Travis Jordan of Pelahatchie, Collision Repair Technology; and James Johnson of Madden, Residential Wiring.

Chemistry instructor Peggy Clayton and pre-nursing major Debbie Lawrence of Kosciusko were named ECCC's HEADWAE

Fall 2008

ECCC implemented a SchoolCast Emergency Notification and Rapid Alert System, Warrior Alert, to assist

See ECCC, 9A

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ECCC

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dents participated in the event.

The annual Award's Day event for ECCC was held May 1, 2008 in Huff Auditorium on the Decatur campus. The program recognized more than 100 award recipients. The highlight of the event was the presentation of the inductees to the 2008 Hall of Fame, the highest honor a student can receive at the College. Hall of Fame members include Ashley Henley, Jonathan Jackson and Noah Cook, all of Hickory, Beth Alexander of Little Rock, Julie Gaines of Philadelphia and Dru Anderson of Decatur.

ECCC students, Beth Alexander of Little Rock and Jonathan Jackson of Hickory were named to the 2008 Phi Theta Kappa All-Mississippi Academic Teams. Alexander, a communications major, was among 15 students named to the First Team and received a $1,000 stipend. Jackson, liberal arts major, was named to the Second Team.

Graduation for the Class of 2008 was held May 10 at the Neshoba County Coliseum. A total of 474 students graduated with more than 300 participating in the ceremony.

ECCC began a four-day week schedule for the two summer 2008 terms offered at the College as a cost-saving measure for students and faculty.

Numerous students representing ECCC won honors at the annual Mississippi SkillsUSA Championships. First-place winners include: Crystal McGee of Philadelphia, Brandi Carter of Louisville and Krystle Walker of Newton, Occupational Health Safety Single; Travis Jordan of Pelahatchie, Collision Repair Technology; and James Johnson of Madden, Residential Wiring.

Johnson, John and Elsie Johnson Hollingsworth, Charlie R. Johnson and Danny E. Johnson.

A scholarship in memory of Andrew Wilson Lathem was established at ECCC. Lathem was the eighth child of William Andrew and Mattie Brantley Lathem of Sebastopol and was the only one of 10 children to attend college.

The Classes of 1957, 1958 and 1959, who met annually during Homecoming activities, established a scholarship to assist students and college expenses. The group has held reunions for nearly 10 years.

The ECCC soccer teams were recognized for their academic success by the National Junior College Athletic Association (NJCAA). The Warriors posted a 3.02 grade point average during the fall term, placing second in the nation for the NJCAA. The Lady Soccer Warriors achieved a 3.25 grade point average for the fall semester and finished fourth in the nation. This is the third consecutive year the Lady Soccer Warriors have finished among the top five in the academic competition.

Fall 2008

ECCC implemented a SchoolCast Emergency Notification and Rapid Alert System, Warrior Alert, to assist with safety protocol at the College.

The College added cable and Internet service to the amenities of campus housing for dormitory students.

Marijo James Denson, a former ECCC May Queen, of Decatur was chosen the College's Alumna of the Year. Denson serves on the Board of the Mississippi Regional Housing Authority #5 and serves as vice president of commissioners of the Southeastern Regional Conference for Housing and Redevelopment.

Richard E. "Dick" Mayo of Decatur was chosen ECCC's Alumnus of the Year. Mayo retired from NASA's Johnson Space Center after more than 33 years of federal service, including developing the life support gear for astronauts such as Neil Armstrong.

A.J. Kilpatrick who spent 36 years as a head football coach, successfully guiding community/junior college and high school teams to an overall 238-138-12 record, was selected to ECCC's Athletic Hall of Fame.

In recognition of his success in leading the Diamond Warrior baseball program, Jamie Clark was inducted posthumously to ECCC's Athletic Hall of Fame. Clark began his tenure in 1998

Chemistry instructor Peggy Clayton and pre-nursing major Debbie Lawrence of Kosciusko were named ECCC's HEAD-WAE (Higher Education Appreciation Day: Working Toward Academic Excellence) Instructor and Student of the Year, respectively, for 2007-08. Clayton began her employment at ECCC in August 2004 after serving the previous 20 years as a science teacher on the high school level. Lawrence, a 46-year-old nontraditional student, is a President's List Scholar with a perfect 4.0 grade point average.

A scholarship in memory of Lee E. Johnson and Lizzie Graham Johnson has been endowed at ECCC. The Johnson Family Engineering Scholarship was established by the couple's children, Joe Lee and Ollie J.

3/30/09

and led the Diamond Warriors to a first-ever state title in 1998 en route to a 32-22 record and was named "MACJC Baseball Coach of the Year."

Emily Thrash of Sebastopol was selected ECCC's 2008 Homecoming Queen. Homecoming Court members included maid-of-honor Briana Edison of Collins; sophomore maids Joy Hayes and Candi Vance, both of Decatur; and Becky Culpepper of Forest; freshman maids Kayla Hampton of Louisville; Hannah Watkins of Sebastopol, Bailey Brown of Morton and Savanna Smith of Ocean Springs.

ECCC classes of 1948, 1958, 1968, 1978, 1988 and 1998 observed class reunions during the 2008 Homecoming celebration. The activities also boasted an ECCC Gospel Choir Reunion Concert and a 5K Run.

Also honored during Homecoming activities were members of the 1998 State Champion Baseball Squad and former Warrior tennis players.

The Board of Trustees welcomed new/reappointed members including Monte Ladner, Leake County Superintendent of Education; Tommy Dearing, Interim Neshoba County Superintendent of Education; Ricky Goldman, Neshoba County representative; Beverly Hart, Newton County representative; Pat Ross, Newton County Superintendent of Education; Vernon Crotwell, Scott County representative; and Leo Parker, Winston County representative.

ECCC President Dr. Phil A. Sutphin was elected to serve as vice chair of the Rural Community College Alliance and was nominated for Chair Elect of the Mississippi Association of Colleges.

ball coach; Lynne Smith, English teacher; and Denita K. Thomas, associate degree nursing instructor.

Forty-five general education development (GED) graduates received their diplomas during the annual GED commencement held July 24, 2008 at in Huff Auditorium.

ECCC students Crystal McGee of Philadelphia and Brandi Carter of Louisville won second-place honors in the Occupational Health and Safety competition at the National Leadership and Skills Conference held in Kansas City, Mo. Also placing at national SkillsUSA competition were Travis Jordan of Philadelphia, who finished 12th in the collision repair division and James Johnson of Madden, who placed 13th in the residential wiring division.

The College's first certified nursing assistant (CNA) class was offered in Philadelphia and was held at the Neshoba Regional Healthcare Education and Training Center.

ECCC enrolled high school seniors in the new Dual Enrollment/Dual Credit Practical nursing program. Nine students from the College's five-county district took advantage of the new program, which was funded by a grant from the State Board for Community and Junior Colleges. Students enrolled included Brittany Brown and Ethan Lewis, both of Newton County Academy; Ashton Acord, Stormie Corsaro and Amanda Graham, all of Newton County; Sha'Nequa Pinkston, Union; Fallon Mattar, Neshoba Central; and Casie McClendon, Morton. Melanie Pinter was the instructor.

ECCC students returned to

Several members of the ECCC Board of Trustees were honored for their years of service during the annual Mississippi Community and Junior College Trustees' Association Conference held in Biloxi. Board members recognized included Board Chairman Prentice Copeland of Philadelphia, 40 years; Randal Livingston of Louisville, 20 years; and Board Vice President Jack Winstead of Lawrence, 10 years.

The College welcomed several new faces to its staff including Christopher Brady, art instructor; Thornese Brooks, secretary to the dean of adult and continuing education; Kristin Chaney, athletic advisor/assistant coach; Cornelius Gilleylen, assistant men's basketball coach; Gennie Phillips-Odom, publications coordinator; Melanie Pinter, dual enrollment practical nursing instructor; Derek Pouncey, assistant foot-

the Decatur campus with first-place awards for the first time and other honors following competition at the 2008 National Phi Beta Lambda Leadership Conference in Atlanta. Four students, Carlos Rice of Louisville, Drew Harrison of Little Rock and Leslie Nash and Josh Dickerson, both of Union, won top honors in the Parliamentary Procedure competition, which qualified them for the honor of being inducted into the Mississippi PBL Hall of Fame at the organization's State Leadership Conference in 2009.

The Dustan Todd Scholarship endowment was completed by Todd's family in memory of the 2004 graduate, who lost his life in an automobile/motorcycle accident on April 28, 2004.

ECCC Warrior Club Officers for 2008-09 were selected including, Brenda Chaney of Little Rock, president; Jerry Wooten of Lake, vice president; and Krissi Munn of Decatur,

3/30/09

secretary.

The ECCC Warrior Golf Classic netted $6,500 for student scholarships. Twenty-five teams participated in the four-person scramble held June 19, 2008 at the Dancing Rabbit Golf Club on the Pearl River Resort in Choctaw, a Development of the Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians.

ECCC President Dr. Phil A. Sutphin was selected as Decatur's Citizen of the Year by the Greater Decatur Chamber of Commerce.

ECCC named Clinton Russell as director of the College's physical plant following the resignation of David Blackledge.

Music Instructor Natalie Emmons was selected as the 2008 recipient of the Mississippi Humanities Council Teacher Award at East Central. Emmons presented a program, "Honoring Those Who Serve," on Oct. 30, 2008 in the Ovid Vickers Fine Arts Center Auditorium.

The 2008 Fall Dinner Theatre, "Who Killed Elvis," was presented Nov. 3, 4, 6, 7 and 8, 2008.

ECCC began plans for renovation to Founders' Gym, which was constructed in 1930. Fundraising efforts to secure the funds necessary for the renovations also began for the building which will serve as a memorabilia facility and the location of administrative offices.

In efforts to ensure campus safety, ECCC established a campus police force, which will include a campus police chief and four full-time police officers as well as additional part-time officers.

ECCC English instructor Debbie Boyd retired following a 28-year career in education. Boyd joined the ECCC English faculty in 2003 following 22 years as an instructor in the Meridian Public School System.

ECCC Early Childhood Education Instructor Mary Ann Wright retired after teaching at the College for 16 years.

The 2008-09 HEADWAE honorees selected for ECCC, including Vicki Blaylock, choral director and vocal music instructor, as Faculty Instructor of the Year and Daniel Johnson, an engineering major from Union, as Student of the Year.

Elected officers for the Student Body Association of East Central for the 2008-09 school year were Emily Thrash of Sebastopol, president; Anna Laurie Ezelle of Union, vice president; Kasey Crutcher of Edinburg, secretary; and Kylie Rigdon of Union, treasurer.

Director of Student Life for ECCC Jonathan Peeples assumed the new title of Director of Student Life/Public Safety.

ECCC Board of Trustees reappointed members, Lois Cooper, of Newton County; Dr. Kimsey Cooper, of Leake County; and Prentice Copeland, of Neshoba County.'

WEEK OF 3/30/09

Juco Soccer

ECCC PHOTO

HONORED WARRIOR

Former East Central Community College head football coach A. J. Kilpatrick, second from left, is shown presenting one of the plaques he received for being named to the 2008 National Junior College Athletic Association Football Hall of Fame to College officials during a recent ceremony on the Decatur campus. ECCC President Dr. Phil A. Sutphin is shown receiving the plaque from the Hall of Fame coach while Athletic Director Chris Harris, right, and current ECCC head football coach Steve Cheatham look on. Kilpatrick's prestigious award will be permanently displayed with other sports memorabilia in the Brackeen-Wood Physical Education Building.

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WEEK OF 4/16/09

ECCC to increase tuition, fees effective July 1

from staff reports

An increase in tuition and fees at East Central Community College in Decatur was approved by the College's Board of Trustees at its April 14 meeting.

ECCC President Dr. Phil A. Sutphin said the additional revenue is needed due to state budget cuts and the increasing costs associated with operating the two-year college.

"East Central has not adjusted tuition and fees charges in several years while inflation and state budget cuts have reduced our ability to cover the costs of providing educational opportunities for students," said Sutphin.

"As much as we have resisted increases in the past, we must now do something to continue our programs at the level that is expected of us. Even with our proposed increases, EC's costs remain competitive with the other community and junior colleges in the State and are very competitive in comparison to the costs at public and private colleges and universities."

Beginning July 1, in-state tuition will increase from $700 to $800. Tuition for out-of-state students will remain the same at $1,050.

The fee for part-time students will increase from $75 to $85 per semester hour.

Dormitory fees will remain the same at $575, but board fees will increase, as a five-day meal plan increases from $740 to $765 and a seven-day meal plan will be $920, up from $890.

Other increases include the academic science lab fee, from $15 to $20; technology fee, from $25 to $30; registration fee, from $35 to $40; online class fee (per class), from $20 to $40; parking decal, from $5 to $10; IDs, from $3 to $10; drop/add course fee, from $5 to $10; and graduation fee, from $30 to $40. New fees include a $20 charge for publications and $5 for student activities. Additional fees also apply to students enrolled in the healthcare programs. The $15 fee for late registration was discontinued.

East Central has scheduled five orientation sessions for new or transfer students planning to enroll in the 2009 fall semester. Registration activities will be held Friday, June 5; Saturday, June 20; Thursday, July 9; Wednesday, July 22; and Friday, August 14. Fall classes begin Thursday, August 20.

For more information, contact the Office of Student Services at 601-635-6205 or call toll free, 877-462-3222, ext. 205. The e-mail address is jkillens@eccc.edu.

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MERIDIAN STAR ✓

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CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF April 27, 2009

ECCC selects new faculty;

SPECIAL TO THE TIMES

The selection of new faculty members and recognition of retiring instructors were among items approved at the April meeting of the East Central Community College Board of Trustees.

Joining the ECCC faculty for 2009-10 are Patrick Stokley Jr., of Vernon, Ala., biology instructor; Brooke Silbley of Newton, early childhood education instructor; Jason Armstrong of Meridian, English instructor; and Robin Fulton of Louisville, mathematics instructor.

Stokley currently serves as a substitute teacher at The Capitol School in Tuscaloosa. He is also a former substitute teacher at Heritage Academy in Columbus. In addition, he previously served as a biology/zoology lab assistant at the University of West Alabama.

A graduate of East Mississippi Community College, Stokley holds a master's degree from UWA and a bachelor's degree in biology from the University of Alabama.

Sibley currently serves as Early Childhood Programs director at the Newton County Career and Technical Center. She is also an instructor at Mississippi State University-Meridian and serves as an educational consultant for the East Mississippi Center for Educational Development (EMCED) at MSU-Meridian.

An ECCC graduate, Sibley attended Meridian Community College and Mississippi State University in Starkville, where she received bachelor, master and educational specialist degrees in elementary education.

Armstrong currently serves as an adjunct professor of management at MSU-Meridian.

He is a graduate of Mississippi State University in Starkville, where he received a bachelor's degree in agriculture and a master's degree in business administration. He is currently pursuing a master's degree in community college education with emphasis in English/ Literature.

Fulton currently serves as mathematics instructor at East Mississippi Community College in Scooba. She previously taught math at Central Academy in Macon and at Nanih Waiya Attendance Center. She is also a former adjunct math instructor for ECCC.

Fulton is a graduate of Mississippi State University in Starkville, where she received bachelor and master's degrees in mathematics.

Resolutions were adopted honoring retiring faculty members who include Debbie Boyd, English instructor; Mary Ann Wright, early childhood education technology director/instructor; James Clark, electronic technology instructor; Joe Johnson, biology instructor; Gloria McRae, mathematics instructor; and Judy Brooks, business technology instructor at the Phil-adelphia/Neshoba County Career-Technical Center.

Boyd and Wright retired in December 2008, after serving five-and-a half years and 16 years, respectively, on the Decatur campus.

Boyd, who has 28 total years in education, has a bachelor's degree in secondary education with a concentration in English from the University of Southern Mississippi and earned master's and specialist degrees in secondary education with a concentration in English from Mississippi State University-Meridian.

She resides in Pensacola after previously living in Meridian.

Wright has a bachelor's degree from the University of Mississippi and completed additional coursework at the University of Southern Mississippi and Mississippi State University.

A former resident of Newton, Wright now resides in Memphis.

Clark has taught electronic technology classes for 11 years. He holds an associate in arts degree from Solana Community College in California.

He resides in Lake.

McRae has served 15 years as mathematics instructor on the ECCC campus. She also taught math classes for 10 years on the high school and junior high school levels, including stints at Carthage Junior High, South Leake High School and Northwest Rankin High School.

She received an associate's degree from ECCC and has a bachelor's degree in music from the University of Southern Mississippi and a master's degree in math from Mississippi State University in Starkville. She has also competed post-graduate work at MSU.

McRae resides in Carthage.

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April 27, 2009

Honors retirees

Johnson has taught biology classes at ECCC since August 2001, after previously serving 11 years as an adjunct instructor.

Johnson has a bachelor's degree in biology from the University of Southern Mississippi and a master's degree in biology from Mississippi State University-Meridian. He has completed additional graduate hours at USM.

He resides in Meridian.

Brooks has served since August 2004 as business technology instructor at the Philadelphia/Neshoba County Career-Technical Center, a division of ECCC.

She previously served as a business and computer teacher at the Walnut Grove Correctional Facility. She is also a former business and computer teacher at Leake Academy. She began her career in education as business teacher at Utica High School.

She holds an associate's degree from ECCC and a bachelor's degree in business education from Delta State University. She has also completed coursework at Mississippi State University.

She resides in Carthage.

Retirees will also be recognized at the College's end-of-the-year luncheon on May 14.

WEEK OF May 4, 2009

ECCC establishes Neill Memorial Scholarship

SPECIAL TO THE TIMES

A scholarship in memory of the Rev. J. L. Neill was recently endowed at East Central Community College in Decatur.

The John Lambert Neill Memorial Scholarship was established by Dr. Harold S. Aycock, a 1964 ECCC graduate who attended the College when the Rev. Neill served as Wesley Foundation director.

Neill was a native of Montrose in Jasper County and a 1906 graduate of Millsaps College.

In 1907, he began a lifetime of service as a licensed Methodist minister. His 64 years of "tireless and distinguished service" was frequently recognized at the state, national and international levels within the Methodist Church.

From 1921-25 as head of the Methodist Mission work in Czechoslovakia, he organized a full-fledged annual conference and helped establish a seminary in Prague.

As Wesley Foundation director at ECCC from 1954 to 1969, the Rev. Neill "was tireless in his ministry to the spiritual and personal needs of current and former students…and was always available to assist students with personal issues and to assist in opening doors of opportunity for personal, educational and career development," according to the scholarship description.

The John Lambert Neill Memorial Scholarship will be awarded to sophomore students with a minimum 3.0 grade point average, who qualify for financial assistance. The scholarship will be awarded for two semesters, with the amount based upon earnings from the endowment corpus. Scholarship recipients will be selected by the College's Scholarship Committee.

For more information contact ECCC Student Services, 601-635-2111 or call toll free, 877-462-3222, ext. 205. The e-mail address is jkillens@eccc.edu.

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WEEK OF May 4, 2009

ECCC's Clark takes spot in MACJC Hall of Fame

When Joe Clark received a telephone call from East Central Community College President Dr. Phil A. Sutphin regarding the 2009 MACJC Sports Hall of Fame, the retired coach thought his opinion was being sought for nominations to the prestigious group.

The Decatur resident had no idea that his recommendations were not needed after all.

"To be honest, as many times as I have had to pick people in the last 12 years for various honors, I thought he was calling for me to help select somebody," Clark said. "Well, when Dr. Sutphin said, 'you're it' I replied, 'Do what'? And he again said, 'you're it!' And I thought to myself, surely we have not gotten that thin (for nominations) around here yet!

"It had never crossed my mind to be in the (MACJC) Sports Hall of Fame...obviously more than just wins and losses are considered for membership...it's the other things I may have done through 34 years in athletics that qualified me for membership.

CLARK

"This is a great honor and I cannot express how appreciative I am to the East Central Alumni Association for selecting me."

Clark took his place in the Hall of Fame during induction ceremonies held on Tuesday, April 28, in Jackson.

During that ceremony, Clark was among the 14 new Hall of Fame members for 2009 representing the state's community and junior colleges.

Only one representative from each college is selected for the honor beginning with this year's class.

Clark, who retired from full-time responsibilities in 1996 but continued coaching the golf team through 2001, is the sixth representative from ECCC to be enshrined in the MACJC (Mississippi Association for Community and Junior Colleges) Sports Hall of Fame.

He was a member of a championship basketball squad at East Central and returned to his alma mater to coach men's basketball for 13 years, golf for 30 years and tennis for 20 years during his 34-year tenure on the Decatur campus. Clark also taught math throughout his career at ECCC and served 26 years as housing director.

His coaching highlights include his 1968-69 Warrior basketball team finishing 20-7, and his 1995-1996 golf and tennis teams being selected NJCAA Academic Teams of the Year.

Clark was inducted into the ECCC Athletic Hall of Fame in 1992. He was named Region 23 Golf Coach of the Year in 1997 and MACJC Golf Coach of the Year in 2001.

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WEEK OF May 11, 2009

Clark Joins MACJC Hall of Fame

Retired East Central Community College coach/faculty member Joe Clark (right) of Decatur was inducted into the Mississippi Association of Community and Junior Colleges (MACJC) Sports Hall of Fame during the annual ceremony held April 28 at the Hilton Hotel in Jackson. Clark joins 14 other community/junior college inductees who comprise the Class of 2009. He is shown with ECCC President Dr. Phil A. Sutphin who presented Clark with the prestigious award.

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WEEK OF May 11, 2009

ECCC SCHOLARSHIP HONORS

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May 11, 2009

LANDON BURT

David Burt of Hickory, third from left, is shown presenting a check to East Central Community College President Dr. Phil A. Sutphin to endow a scholarship in memory of Burt's brother, Landon, who lost his life while swimming in the college's lake Dec. 19, 2008. Also shown during the presentation are: from left, Burt's parents, Bryan and Mary Burt of Hickory; Scott Vaughn, Baptist Student Union director; and Cassidy Crenshaw, assistant director. Landon Burt drowned while being filmed for an inspirational video for BSU. In addition to being a BSU member, Landon was a President's List scholar and member of the Warrior Corps, a select group of students who assist in recruiting endeavors and special events. He was a 2008 salutatorian graduate of Newton County Academy, where he was chosen Mr. NCA, STAR Student, Most Likely to Succeed and lettered in baseball, golf and basketball. He was selected an MPSA All-Star basketball player in 2008. Landon was a member of Newton First Baptist Church. More than $10,000 was raised by family and friends to endow the Landon Bryan Burt Memorial Scholarship. Contributions continue to be received and may be sent to the ECCC Office of Foundation and Alumni Relations, P.O. Box 129, Decatur, MS 39327. For information regarding scholarship criteria contact Student Services, (601) 635-2111 or call toll free, (877) 462-3222, ext. 205.

SUBMITTED PHOTO

WEEK OF May 11, 2009

ECCC selects new faculty members, honors retirees

special to The Star

DECATUR – The selection of new faculty members and recognition of retiring instructors were among items approved at the April meeting of the East Central Community College Board of Trustees.

Joining the ECCC faculty for 2009-10 are Patrick Stokley Jr. of Vernon, Ala., biology instructor; Brooke Silbley of Newton, early childhood education instructor; Jason Armstrong of Meridian, English instructor; and Robin Fulton of Louisville, mathematics instructor.

Stokley currently serves as a substitute teacher at The Capitol School in Tuscaloosa. He is also a former substitute teacher at Heritage Academy in Columbus. In addition, he previously served as a biology/zoology lab assistant at the University of West Alabama.

A graduate of East Mississippi Community College, Stokley holds a master's degree from UWA and a bachelor's degree in biology from the University of Alabama.

master's degree in community college education with emphasis in English/literature.

Fulton currently serves as mathematics instructor at East Mississippi Community College in Scooba. She previously taught math at Central Academy in Macon and at Nanih Waiya Attendance Center. She is also a former adjunct math instructor for ECCC.

Fulton is a graduate of Mississippi State University in Starkville, where she received bachelor's and master's degrees in mathematics.

Resolutions were adopted honoring retiring faculty members who include Debbie Boyd, English instructor; Mary Ann Wright, early childhood education technology director/instructor; James Clark, electronic technology instructor; Joe Johnson, biology instructor; Gloria McRae, mathematics instructor; and Judy Brooks, business technology instructor at the Philadelphia/Neshoba County Career-Technical Center.

Boyd and Wright retired in December 2008, from Solana Community College in California.

He resides in Lake.

McRae has served 15 years as mathematics instructor on the ECCC campus. She also taught math classes for 10 years on the high school and junior high school levels, including stints at Carthage Junior High, South Leake High School and Northwest Rankin High School.

She received an associate's degree from ECCC and has a bachelor's degree in music from the University of Southern Mississippi and a master's degree in math from Mississippi State University in Starkville. She has also competed post-graduate work at MSU.

McRae resides in Carthage.

Johnson has taught biology classes at ECCC since August 2001, after previously serving 11 years as an adjunct instructor.

Johnson has a bachelor's degree in biology from the University of Southern Mississippi and a master's degree in biology from Mississippi State University-Meridian. He has completed addi-

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Sibley currently serves as Early Childhood Programs director at the Newton County Career and Technical Center. She is also an instructor at Mississippi State University-Meridian and serves as an educational consultant for the East Mississippi Center for Educational Development (EMCED) at MSU-Meridian.

An ECCC graduate, Sibley attended Meridian Community College and Mississippi State University in Starkville, where she received bachelor, master and educational specialist degrees in elementary education.

Armstrong currently serves as an adjunct professor of management at MSU-Meridian.

He is a graduate of Mississippi State University in Starkville, where he received a bachelor's degree in agriculture and a master's degree in business administration. He is currently pursuing a after serving five-and-a half years and 16 years, respectively, on the Decatur campus.

Boyd, who has 28 total years in education, has a bachelor's degree in secondary education with a concentration in English from the University of Southern Mississippi and earned master's and specialist degrees in secondary education with a concentration in English from Mississippi State University-Meridian.

She resides in Pensacola after previously living in Meridian.

Wright has a bachelor's degree from the University of Mississippi and completed additional coursework at the University of Southern Mississippi and Mississippi State University.

A former resident of Newton, Wright now resides in Memphis.

Clark has taught electronic technology classes for 11 years. He holds an associate in arts degree tional graduate hours at USM.

He resides in Meridian.

Brooks has served since August 2004 as business technology instructor at the Philadelphia/Neshoba County Career-Technical Center, a division of ECCC.

She previously served as a business and computer teacher at the Walnut Grove Correctional Facility. She is also a former business and computer teacher at Leake Academy. She began her career in education as business teacher at Utica High School.

She holds an associate's degree from ECCC and a bachelor's degree in business education from Delta State University. She has also completed coursework at Mississippi State University.

She resides in Carthage.

Retirees will also be recognized at the college's end-of-the-year luncheon this month.

WEEK OF May 11, 2009

McRae retires from 25-year teaching career

After striving to "make learning fun" during 25 years of service teaching students on the secondary and post-secondary levels, Gloria McRae of Carthage is retiring as math instructor at East Central Community College in Decatur.

She will be honored with other ECCC retirees at the end-of-the-year luncheon scheduled May 14 (today). She has spent the past 15 years in the ECCC classroom.

An ECCC alumnus, she was a Forest High School graduate.

McRae began her career teaching junior high math after getting a degree in music education from the University of Southern Mississippi. She later qualified for an emergency certificate and began teaching math at Carthage Junior High School. Later she received

MCRAE

a master's degree in math from Mississippi State University and completed additional studies from MSU.

In addition to her teaching duties, she has helped score the high school AP Calculus test. Approximately 800 high school college and university Calculus teachers from around the world are represented each year in this project.

She has also assisted in presenting Algebra workshops sponsored by the Mississippi Council of Teachers of Mathematics. In addition, she has helped sponsor the annual ECCC District Math Contest held on the Decatur campus.

She is married to James McRae of Carthage and they have three grown children and four grandchildren.

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WEEK OF May 18, 2009

Board/Officials

Harrison honored for Civil War research

Ricky Harrison, a drafting and design technology instructor at East Central Community College, has received the 2009 Award of Excellence for Use of Historical Records in Higher Education presented by the Mississippi Historical Records Advisory Board.

Harrison, of Decatur, is the first recipient of the prestigious honor, presented at the Society of Mississippi Archivists' biennial conference at an awards luncheon at the University of Southern Mississippi Gulf Coast Campus in Long Beach on April 23.

The award recognizes Harrison and class members for their extensive research on historical projects, which included a survey and location of the original four corners of Newton County and documentation of Gen. William Sherman's march from Decatur to Lauderdale County and his route in the western part of Newton County during the Civil War.

The printed reports of the class projects as well as maps and charts generated by the projects are all part of the collection of Newton County Archives.

Presenting Harrison with the award April 23 were Julia Marks Young (second from left) and Forrest Galey (left), officials with the Archives and Records Services Division for the Mississippi Dept. of Archives and History. Also pictured are Harrison's wife, Janean (second from right) and Ann Burkes, representing the Newton County Historical and Genealogical Society, who nominated Harrison for the award. (ECCC photo)

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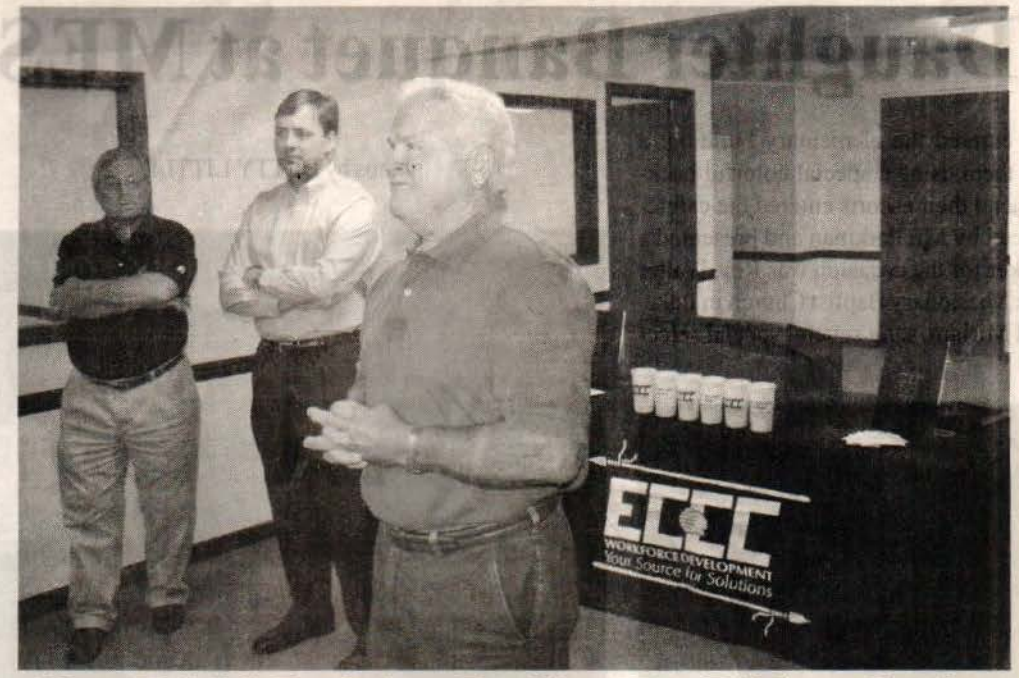
WEEK OF May 18, 2009



New ECCC Training Facility Has Ribbon Cutting

Local and state officials gathered Monday, May 11 to participate in a ribbon cutting and tour of East Central Community College's new Career Advancement Center located in the old Spartus facility at 923 South Church Street in Louisville. This Center was made possible through a collaborative effort between the Winston County Economic Development District Partnership, the ECCC Workforce Development Center, and the West Alabama/East Mississippi Wired Grant in order to make training and small business counseling services more readily available to those individuals and businesses affected by these uncertain economic times. Classes and certifications are scheduled to begin as early as June 1 ranging from basic electrical, welding, computer, healthcare, and different apprenticeship offerings as well. A more detailed list of available classes can be found on the ECCC Workforce Development webpage at www.eccc.edu/workforce. Pictured from left are Mo Yarborough, Mayor of Louisville, Russ Nowell, State Representative, and Jerry Estes, Chairman of the Winston County Board of Supervisors. For more information on ECCC Workforce and Small Business Development Center offerings, call toll free 1-877-462-3222, Ext. 296. (EC Photo)

APPEARED IN:

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WEEK OF May 18, 2009

Pilgrim selected EC "Instructor of the Year"

Kristie Pilgrim of Union, surgical technology instructor, was recently selected Academic and Career-Technical Instructor of the Year, respectively, at East Central Community College in Decatur.

Pilgrim said, "As long as I can remember I knew that I was destined to teach. Even as a young child I would read to my dolls and conduct classroom lessons on a chalkboard."

Pilgrim is currently in her eighth year as an instructor in the College's Surgical Technology program.

Prior to joining the ECCC staff, she was employed in the Labor and Delivery and Surgery Departments at Rush Foundation Hospital in Meridian. She has also held positions at Rush Medical Group and Southern Healthcare Agency at University of Mississippi Medical Center.

"I am extremely humbled and gracious," she said. "I know that I would not be where I am today without good mentors."

Pilgrim says her career influences began in high school with several of the instructors that she now has the privilege of calling co-workers.

Pilgrim added that she would not be where she is today without her colleague and best friend LeAnn Shirley.

"She has always been there to answer questions, show me direction and offer wonderful advice these past eight years. I cannot begin to describe how much I have learned from her and her mentorship. I am blessed to be able to work with someone who shares my values and teaching techniques and encourages me daily.

Pilgrim said she is discouraged when she thinks about the constant budget cuts that are being made to the community colleges.

She has participated in the American Cancer Society's Relay for Life for two years and is a member of the choir at Neshoba Baptist Church in Union.

She and her husband, Todd, are the parents of two-and-a-half-year-old twins, Macie Caraline and Mason Thomas. The family resides in Union.

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WEEK OF May 25, 2009

Legislative Resolution Honors ECCC Staff Members

A resolution praising East Central Community College staff members Joseph Knight (second from left) of Union and Chris Clark (third from left) of Decatur was recently adopted by the Mississippi Legislature and presented by State Senators Giles Ward (left) of Louisville and Terry C. Burton (right) of Newton during the College's end-of-the-year luncheon held May 14, 2009, on the Decatur campus. Knight and Clark were recognized "for their selfless and heroic life-saving efforts" following an automobile accident on Aug. 15, 2008, at the Sturgis intersection approximately eight miles north of Louisville. An EC van carrying Knight, Clark and fellow Workforce Development staff members Joe Barrett, Tina Harris and Kimberly Mott, all of Decatur; Lucretia Williams of Lena; Joey Kenna of Forest; and Roger Whitlock of Union, was struck by another vehicle, resulting in serious injuries for most of the passengers. The passenger in the other vehicle was not seriously injured. Knight and Clark, although injured themselves, managed to provide assistance to those in greatest need. Knight was especially praised for assisting Kenna, which included placing a tourniquet on his severely damaged left arm and keeping him comfortable and alert as possible until emergency care arrived. Clark called 911 and provided assistance – including first aid - to Harris and Whitlock. Kenna and Williams have endured the most surgeries following the accident and are still recuperating. Others are also coping with injuries from the accident. After the resolutions were presented, ECCC staff members responded with a standing ovation. (EC Photo)

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WEEK OF May 25, 2009

ECCC Announces GED 'Cram Week' June 8-12

Students who need to complete or retake the GED exam will have a chance to do so by taking advantage of an intensive GED "Cram Week," scheduled June 8-12, 2009, at the Philadelphia/Neshoba County Career-Technical Center.

The GED (General Educational Development) classes and exams are provided by East Central Community College in Decatur and are offered free of charge during the special week, announced Gene Davis, dean of adult and continuing education.

Davis said class participants will receive one-on-one tutoring on a designated section of the exam during each morning session and can take the corresponding part of the GED exam in the afternoon session.

During the week, students will receive assistance from the College's GED instructors from 8 to 11:30 a.m. each day according to the following schedule: mathematics, Monday, June 8; writing skills, Tuesday, June 9; science, Wednesday, June 10; social studies, Thursday, June 11; and reading, Friday, June 12. Exams are provided in the respective subject areas from 1 to 3:30 p.m. each day.

"The testing sessions are free only for students who attend the tutoring sessions in the mornings," said Davis. "Students can retake only the part(s) they lack to complete the GED or they can retake the entire test."

For more information contact the ECCC Office of Adult and Continuing Education, 601-635-2111 or call toll free, 877-462-3222, ext. 278 or 279. The e-mail addresses are gdavis@ecccc.edu, relarke@eccc.edu or tbrooks@eccc.edu.

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WEEK OF June 1, 2009

Get your new house

By Tami K. Phillips
Appeal Staff Writer

The finished product waits to be sold to the highest bidder. (ECCC photo)

The public will have the opportunity to bid on two houses constructed by East Central Community College students until next Friday.

Wayne Eason, Dean of Career-Technical Instruction, said the houses were completed as a joint operation by students in the school's drafting and design, carpentry and cabinetmaking, heating and air-conditioning and electrical technology programs.

The annual project allows students the opportunity to gain real-world experience while also offering a product to the public.

"The students get the experience of working on a real project," Eason said. "We can textbook them to death, but it won't give them the experience of live work. When you put practice into theory, it really makes a difference."

Students not only learn to be creative, but also develop problem-solving skills while working on the houses, Eason said. As in any real-life situation, students often have to learn from their mistakes. If something goes wrong with a particular project, it may have to be scrapped and a new one started.

After undergoing an orientation period in August, students immediately begin work on the houses. Drafting and design students assist with the visualization of the house. Carpentry and cabinetmaking students do as much work as they can on the frame before electrical technology students complete the wiring. Then heating and air-conditioning students come in to do their part before it's time to hang sheet rock.

Through much team work and dedication, the houses are completed by the end of the school year in May.

Whereas ECCC students only completed one house in the past, this year the school decided to construct two houses.

"We've had a lot of interest from people who wanted houses that would be good rentals or hunting-type houses, so we went a little smaller and made two houses," Eason said.

The houses are 22x40 feet and include two bedrooms, two bathrooms, a living/dining area, kitchen and utility room. Also included are a 2 ton heat pump heating and cooling system, a 40 gallon electric water heater and double

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June 1, 2009

'to go' at EC

insulated windows. The houses are approximately 80 percent complete.

Bidding starts at $35,000 and sealed bids will be accepted until Friday, June 12, at 2 p.m.

Eason said he considers the starting price very fair considering current housing and building prices.

"The college doesn't look to make money on this," Eason said. "Of course we hope to make a profit, but every house is made possible based on the house sold from the last year."

Anyone interested in viewing the houses can visit the campus during the week from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. The houses are located behind the vocational annex building adjacent to the football stadium.

For more information, contact Eason at (601) 635-6211.

ECCC students work on a house that the college plans to sell. (ECCC photo)

WEEK OF June 1, 2009

Johnson Donates Book to ECCC Library...Newton County native Joe Johnson of Meridian recently donated a copy of his book, "Johnson Connection," to Burton Library at East Central Community College in Decatur. The book is a history of the Johnson family of Newton County and includes information about Johnson, his wife, Jennie McMahan Johnson, and his brother, Dr. Alvis C. Johnson, in addition to others. Jennie Johnson and Alvis Johnson both attended ECCC in the 1930s. (EC Photo)

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WEEK OF June 8, 2009

Larry B. Therrell Scholarship established at East Central

A scholarship in memory of Larry B. Therrell was recently established at East Central Community College in Decatur.

Therrell's former students and players began the annual award, which honors the former high school administrator, coach and teacher credited with beginning Leake Academy's athletic program.

Therrell began his tenure at Leake Academy in 1970 as social studies instructor and high school principal. According to the scholarship description, there were no plans for athletics at the school's inception but because of Therrell's "strong multiple sport high school and college background," he soon found a way to begin the "now accomplished" Leake Academy athletic program. In the first year, Therrell was the only coach on staff. He would eventually serve 12 years as coach.

The Larry B. Therrell Memorial Scholarship award will be presented to students "who exhibit the characteristics Coach Therrell held dear," especially the "not quitting" factor, according to the scholarship guidelines. Other factors to be considered in the selection process include "citizenship, work ethic exhibited on the athletic field and in the classroom, and a strong will to continue when the 'going gets tough.'"

The scholarship award will give preference to a graduating Leake Academy student-athlete who will be an incoming freshman at ECCC. Participation in athletics at East Central will not be required of the recipient.

Scholarship recipients will be selected by the high school selection committee.

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WEEK OF June 15, 2009

Scott Officials Visit ECCC

Scott County officials were luncheon guests of the East Central Community College Board of Trustees at its May meeting. The special campus visitors are shown with trustees from Scott County following the meal. Seated from left are supervisors Bruce McMillan (District Five) and Buford Palmer (District Three); Joe Rigby, circuit clerk; Myra Murrell-Davis, tax assessor/collector; Billy Frank Alford, chancery clerk; and Jack Gordon, District Four supervisor. Standing from left are trustees Royce Shaw (Board secretary) of Forest, Vernon Crotwell of Morton, Annie Stowers of Forest, and Frank McCurdy (Scott County Superintendent of Education) and Rebecca Farris, both of Morton. (EC Photo)

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WEEK OF June 15, 2009

ECCC FACULTY MEMBERS HONORED

SUBMITTED PHOTO

Retiring faculty members and instructors of the year received special recognition at East Central Community College's annual end-of-the-year luncheon, sponsored by the Administration, Faculty, Staff Association (AFSA). From left are retirees James Clark of Lake, electronic technology instructor; Gloria McRae of Carthage, math instructor; Debbie Boyd of Pensacola, formerly of Meridian, English instructor; and Joe Johnson of Meridian, biology instructor. Johnson and Kristie Pilgrim (right) of Union, surgical technology instructor, were selected academic and career-technical instructors of the year, respectively. Also honored but not pictured are retirees Mary Ann Wright of Memphis, previously of Decatur, early childhood education director/instructor; and Judy Brooks of Carthage, business technology instructor at the Philadelphia/Neshoba County Career-Technical Center, a division of ECCC.

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WEEK OF July 6, 2009.

Cheatham

From Page B1

miss Coach Cheatham. He added tremendously to the football program."

Prior to being named Warrior head football coach, Cheatham served as defensive coordinator for former head coach Terry Underwood during the 2007 campaign. He also served as a Warrior assistant during the 2001-03 seasons. A 31-year coaching veteran, Cheatham is a former head football coach at Neshoba Central and Philadelphia high schools. He owns a 46-20 record during his six years as a high school head coach. He led East Central to a 4-5 record in the 2008 season, capped off by a stunning 44-38 double-overtime win over the playoff-bound Pearl River Community College Wildcats.

Cheatham's coaching experience also includes stints as an assistant at Dothan (Ala.) and Neshoba Central high schools, and as a graduate assistant at Clemson University. In addition, Cheatham served two season as director of football operations at the University of Mississippi under Rebel head coach David Cutcliffe.

A 1974 graduate of Neshoba Central, Cheatham attended East Central from 1974-76 and received a bachelor's degree in health, physical education and recreation from Mississippi State University in 1978. He earned a master's degree in secondary guidance and counseling from Clemson University in 1995.

Dr. Sutphin said the search "is under way" for Cheatham's successor.

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July 6, 2009

East Central's Cheatham resigns

52-year-old coach coming off surgery for prostate cancer

from school reports

Steve Cheatham has resigned as head football coach at East Central Community College in Decatur, ECCC President Dr. Phil A. Sutphin announced Tuesday. Cheatham's resignation is effective July 31.

Cheatham, who took over the Warrior program following the 2007 campaign, underwent surgery for prostate cancer on June 22. He cited health concerns as a reason for his resignation.

"I just don't think I can give East Central and the young men what they need going into the upcoming season," said Cheatham, a 52-year-old Philadelphia native when announcing his resignation in a Tuesday afternoon meeting with Dr. Sutphin and Athletic Director Chris Harris.

"Although the surgery was termed successful, there's still a six-week period where I'm limited to what I can do. I just don't have the strength I need to do the job."

> *I just don't think I can give East Central and the young men what they need going into the upcoming season.*

ECCC football coach Steve Cheatham

Cheatham said having cancer also changed his priorities. He wants to spend more time with his family and is looking forward to being a grandfather.

"My daughter Lindsey and her husband (Bo Burkes) are expecting their first child in February. (Wife) Brenda and I want to be able to spend as much time as possible with our new grandchild," he stated.

Cheatham, who plans to retire from the state system following 28 years of service, will continue coaching but on a different level. He will serve as a physical education instructor for K-8 grades at Conehatta Elementary School, a division of the Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians, beginning in August.

Dr. Sutphin, who reluctantly accepted Cheatham's resignation, said East Central "will definitely

See **Cheatham**
Page B4

July 13, 2009

Cheatham resigns; Ande

from school reports

Following last week's resignation of head football coach Steve Cheatham, East Central Community College assistant Brian Anderson has been named interim head football coach of the Warriors.

Brian Anderson

"We are pleased to have someone on staff such as Coach Anderson to assume the interim position," said ECCC president Dr. Phil Sutphin. "His background will serve him and the team well over the next several months."

Anderson, 36, was named to the post less than a week following the resignation of Steve Cheatham, who stepped down due mainly to health reasons.

Steve Cheatham

Cheatham, who led the Warrior program one year and is a former assistant, underwent successful surgery for prostate cancer on June 22 but said he did not think he "could give East Central and the young men what is needed" going into the upcoming season.

Cheatham, 52, has 28 years coaching experience in the state system and 31 years overall and will now serve as physical education instructor for grades K-8 at Conehatta Elementary School, a division of the Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians.

Anderson, who served the past year as Cheatham's offensive coordinator and will continue in that role along with duties as head coach, said he is ready for the challenge, although he did not expect the head coaching position so soon.

"It's a great opportunity, it's a privilege and it's an honor to serve as head football coach at East Central Community College," Anderson said after addressing team members in a Sunday night meeting.

"Being head coach is something I had in the back of my mind when I came here. The timing of the matter was a little off from what I thought it would be — I thought it would be several

Faculty / Administration

WEEK OF July 13, 2009

rson promoted at ECCC

years — but at the same time it's something that I am ready for, something that I am eager for as well as my family. I'm just very excited and ready to get started."

Anderson is a former high school head football coach, leading Grenada to a 5-6 record in 2007 after successfully guiding Philadelphia to a 27-8 mark from 2004 through the 2006 seasons. He is also a former assistant at Meridian, Philadelphia, and Neshoba Central high schools.

Anderson was the starting center at Mississippi State University on the 1992-95 squads, which participated in three bowl games. He earned All-SEC honors his junior and senior seasons and made the All-SEC Academic Team for three seasons. In addition, he was presented the CommuniGroup Offensive Lineman of the Year award a record three times. He was selected for the Blue-Gray All-Star Classic, the East-West Shrine Game, Senior Bowl, and the NFL Combine in 1996.

A former football standout at Prattville (Ala), High School, Anderson is married to the former LeaAnn Allen of Philadelphia. They have two sons, Brady and Eli.

In analyzing this year's East Central squad, Anderson said he is "very optimistic" that the Warriors can achieve their first winning season since 2001. He noted last season's strong finish and an impressive recruiting class as reasons for his optimism.

"We've got to have a carryover from last season," Anderson said, referring to the Warriors' impressive finish by winning two of their last three games against very formidable opponents.

"The last three games of the season, I thought we were as good as anybody. We've got several of those players back this season, so they know in the back of their minds they are capable of playing with anybody in the state.

"We've gone out and recruited some players that have great motors ... they play extremely hard and they play extremely fast," he noted. "We've recruited some guys with state championship experience and some who were members of teams that were ranked among the top in the nation. So we have recruited some guys that understand what it takes to be a winner ... the price you have to pay in order to win.

"We've set the bar high ... I expect us to win more games ... have a winning season ... make the playoffs ... win a playoff game and compete for a state championship."

The Warriors begin their 2009 season at home against Coahoma on August 27.

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Alumni/Scholarships/Homecoming

WEEK OF July 27, 2009

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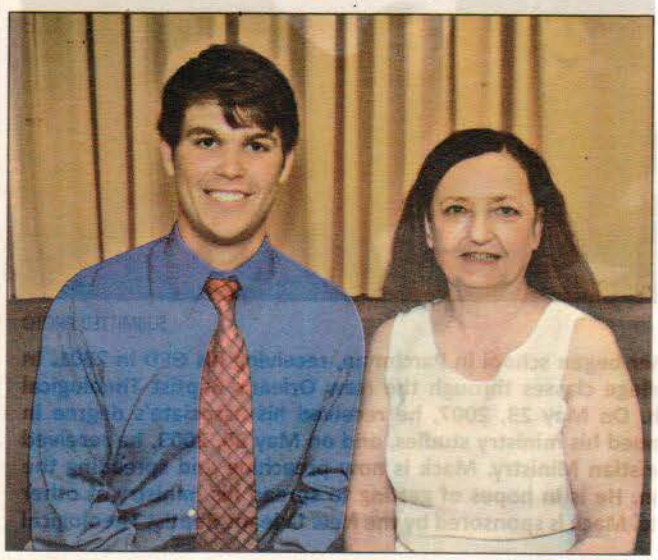

SUBMITTED PHOTO

Jordan Gunn (left) of Forest is the 2009 recipient of The Aaron Ron Davis Memorial Scholarship presented during the AT&T Scholarship Appreciation Luncheon held July 16 at East Central Community College in Decatur. Gunn, a returning sophomore at ECCC, is a graduate of Lake High School. Established in 2006, the scholarship honors the memory of the longtime ECCC science instructor who also served as division chairman. Also pictured is Patti Davis, Ron's widow. More than 90 scholarships totaling approximately $70,000 were awarded at the annual event, which recognizes donors and recipients of various scholarships. AT&T has sponsored the scholarship appreciation luncheon since 2003.

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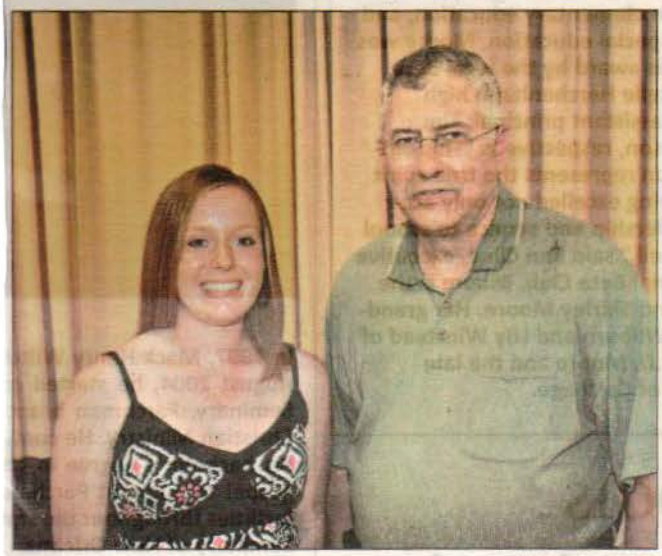

SUBMITTED PHOTO

Meaghan Mayes (left) of Conehatta is the 2009 recipient of The Rev. John Lambert Neill Scholarship presented during the AT&T Scholarship Appreciation Luncheon held July 16 at East Central Community College in Decatur. Mayes, a returning sophomore at ECCC, is a graduate of Sebastopol High School. She is shown with Dr. Harold Aycock who established the scholarship in honor of the former Wesley Foundation director at ECCC. More than 90 scholarships totaling approximately $70,000 were awarded at the annual luncheon, which recognizes donors and recipients of various scholarships. AT&T has sponsored the scholarship appreciation luncheon since 2003.

SUBMITTED PHOTO

Hannah Watkins (left) is the first recipient of a scholarship established by members of the 1957, 1958 and 1959 classes at East Central Community College in Decatur. Watkins, a returning sophomore, is a graduate of Sebastopol High School. She is shown with Carol Vickers, a representative of the three classes. The scholarship evolved from the idea of Martha Kate Tullos Hummel, who for many years organized a Friday night reunion for the three classes at homecoming. Following her death, a committee was formed to discuss the scholarship and as a result $25,000 was raised within a 12-month period.

SUBMITTED PHOTO

Brittany Harrison (left) is the 2009 recipient of the Mable Moore Carr Educational Scholarship, which was presented during the AT&T Scholarship Appreciation Luncheon held July 16 at East Central Community College in Decatur. Harrison is a graduate of Forest High School. The award was established in 1996 by Mrs. Carr's four sons in recognition of her service to education as a teacher for the Forest Separate School District. Shown with the scholarship recipient is Romonica Evans of the ECCC Student Services staff.

SPECIAL TO THE TIMES

Spencer Cash (left) is the 2009 recipient of The Dr. Austin P. Boggan Scholarship presented during the AT&T Scholarship Appreciation Luncheon held July 16 at East Central Community College in Decatur. Cash is a graduate of Lake High School. The scholarship was established in 1999 by family and friends of the late Dr. Boggan, a physician in Decatur for more than 40 years. Also pictured is family representative Ada McGrevey.

College Visitors / Events / News

WEEK OF August 3, 2009

ECCC Warrior Club Banquet Scheduled Aug. 13

Supporters of East Central Community College athletics are encouraged to attend the second annual Warrior Club Fall Banquet scheduled Thursday, Aug. 13 on the Decatur campus.

Activities for the semi-casual event begin with a social hour at 6 p.m. followed the meal at 7 p.m. in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria. The banquet menu includes fried catfish and shrimp.

"The banquet is open to all alumni and friends of the College who have supported East Central athletics in the past and/or pledge their support in the future," said Stacey Hollingsworth, executive director for foundation and alumni relations. Her office also receives contributions for The Warrior Club, the financial support group for ECCC's athletic teams.

Hollingsworth said featured speakers on the program will be head coaches for each sport, who include Brian Anderson (interim), football; Kenneth Thompson, women and men's soccer; Bill Smith, women's basketball; Maurice Bowie, men's basketball; Neal Holliman, baseball; Scott Hill, fastpitch softball; Dianne O'Neill, women and men's tennis; and James Moore, golf. Chris Harris, athletic director, will serve as master of ceremonies.

Tickets are $20 per person. All proceeds benefit The Warrior Club.

For more information contact Stacey Hollingsworth, 601-635-2111 or call toll free, 877-462-3222, ext. 327. The e-mail address is sholling@eccc.edu.

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WEEK OF August 14, 2009

ECCC welcomes three

special to the star

DECATUR – Incoming students aren't the only new faces on the East Central Community College campus this fall semester.

Jason Armstrong of Meridian, Robin Fulton of Louisville and Debra M. Payton of Walnut Grove began their new duties as members of the ECCC staff on Aug. 14.

Armstrong, who joined the college's English faculty, previously served since 2005 as adjunct professor of management at Mississippi State University-Meridian.

He is also a former banker, having served with various institutions from 1999 to 2008. Armstrong most recently was employed with Citizens National Bank in Meridian, where he was a commercial relationship banker from 2005 to 2008. He is also a former commercial banker with Trustmark National Bank in Tupelo and served as portfolio manager and assistant bank manager at AmSouth Bank in Ridgeland.

A graduate of Havelock High School in North Carolina, Armstrong attended Mississippi State University, where he received a bachelor's degree in agriculture and a master's degree in business administration. He recently completed a second master's degree in community college education with major emphasis in English and English literature.

Fulton

Armstrong

Armstrong is the son of Ret. Marine Col. Richard Armstrong and Charlotte Armstrong of Meridian.

Fulton is a mathematics instructor at East Central. She previously served since 2000 as math instructor at East Mississippi Community College in Scooba. She is also a former math instructor at Central Academy in Macon and Nanih Waiya Attendance Center. In addition, she is a former adjunct instructor for ECCC.

While employed at EMCC, Fulton was selected HEADWAE Instructor of the Year and was chosen a Lamplighter. Both programs recognized excellence in teaching. She was also chosen a STAR Teacher at both Nanih Waiya and Central Academy.

A graduate of Winston Academy, Fulton received bachelor's and master's degrees in mathematics education from Mississippi State University.

She is married to Buddy Fulton and they have two

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August 17, 200

new staffers

Payton

children, Blake and Anna. They are members of Good Hope Baptist Church.

Payton is serving as Childcare Center director/Childhood Education instructor at ECCC. She previously served as manager for the Wonderful World Early Head Start Center in Walnut Grove, a position she held since 2001. In that position, Payton was responsible for the day-to-day operations of the preschool facility, which holds accreditation from the National Association for the Education of Young Children. Her experience also includes service as a caregiver/teacher for Friends of Children of Mississippi Inc., in Carthage for 10 years.

Payton is a former member of the Leake County School Board, serving from 2002 to 2008. During this period she received the Gold Bell Award from the Mississippi School Board Association for the highest number of hours in school board training for the year 2005.

She currently serves on the Oprah Winfrey Boys and Girls Club Board of Directors for Leake County, is a member of Team Leake, South Leake PTO and Booster Club and the Sweet Water Church of God in Christ.

Payton attended South Leake High School and graduated from Southridge High School in Indianapolis, Indiana. She holds an associate's degree in childcare technology from Hinds Community College in Raymond and continued her education at Jackson State University, where she earned a bachelor's degree in childcare and family education and a master's in education/early childhood education.

WEEK OF August 17, 2009

Fulton joins ECCC math faculty

Robin Fulton of Louisville was recently selected mathematics instructor at East Central Community College in Decatur, announced Dr. Phil A. Sutphin, ECCC president.

Fulton, who began her new duties on Aug. 14, previously served since 2000 as math instructor at East Mississippi Community College in Scooba. She is also a former math instructor at Central Academy in Macon and Nanih Waiya Attendance Center. In addition, she is a former adjunct instructor for ECCC.

While employed at EMCC, Fulton was selected HEADWAE Instructor of the Year and was chosen a Lamplighter. Both programs recognized excellence in teaching. She was also chosen a STAR Teacher at both Nanih Waiya and Central Academy.

Fulton

A graduate of Winston Academy, Fulton received bachelor and master's degrees in mathematics education from Mississippi State University.

She is married to Buddy Fulton and they have two children, Blake and Anna.

They are members of Good Hope Baptist Church.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

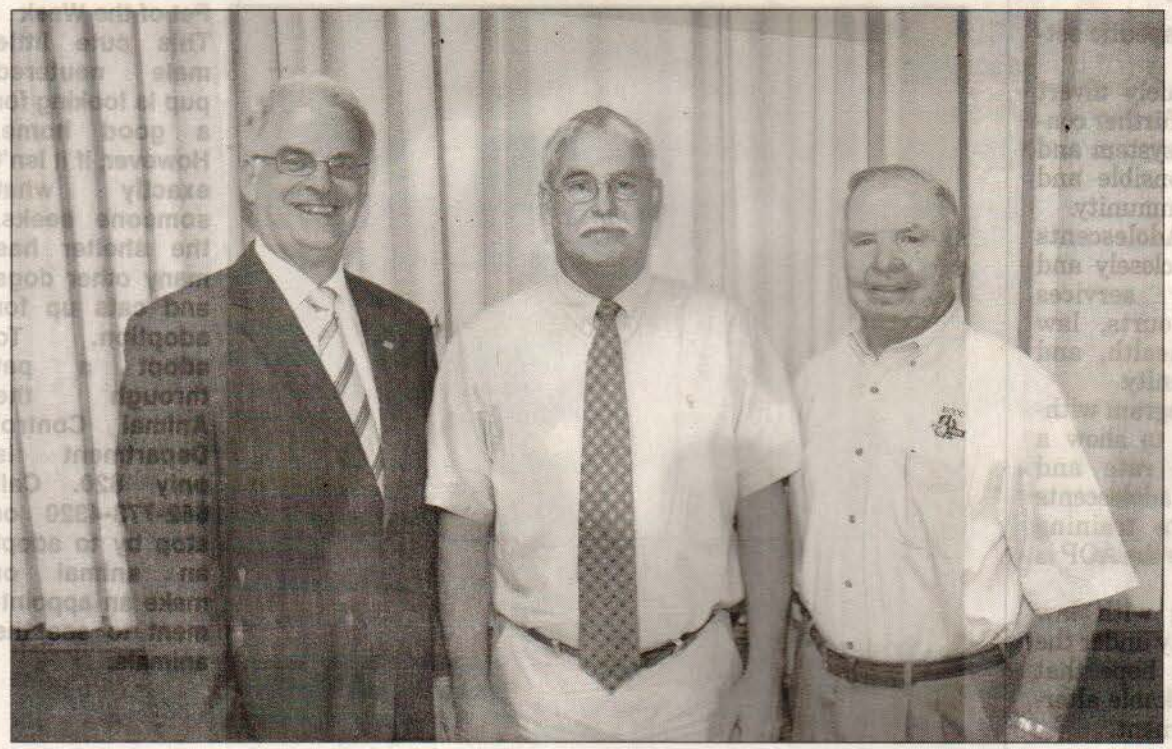
NEWTON COUNTY APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL ✓

CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF August 24, 2009

New ECCC trustee



Dr. William C. Wade (center) of Winston County was recently welcomed as a new member of the East Central Community College Board of Trustees. The new trustee is shown with ECCC President Dr. Phil A. Sutphin (left) and Board Chairman Prentice Copeland of Philadelphia following the group's Aug. 11 meeting on the Decatur campus. Dr. Wade joins the ECCC Trustees due to his recent selection as the new Supt. of the Louisville Municipal School District, succeeding Harry Kemp. Dr. Wade has an extensive background in education, including 10 years service as Supt. of Education for the Union Public School District. He is also a former adjunct professor at Mississippi State University-Meridian. He began his career in education as an instructor at the Winston/Louisville Vocational Center. He holds four degrees from Mississippi State University in Starkville, including a doctorate in curriculum and instruction/education leadership. He and his wife Sue Ann have four children, Will, Chelsea, Beth Ann and Stephen, and two grandchildren.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON COUNTY APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL ✓

CLARION-LEDGER _____

Board/Officials

WEEK OF August 24, 2009

ECCC Trustees Crotwell, Hart Honored for Service

Vernon Crotwell (second from left) of Morton and Beverly Hart of Union (third from left) were recently honored for their service as members of the East Central Community College Board of Trustees. Crotwell has served 20 years and Hart has accumulated 10 years service. They were among trustees from across the state who received the special recognition at the Mississippi Community and Junior College Conference held during July in Biloxi. Plaques commemorating the honorees for their service were presented by ECCC President Dr. Phil A. Sutphin (left) and Board Chairman Prentice Copland of Philadelphia at the Aug. 11 trustees' meeting on the Decatur campus. (EC Photo)

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON ✓

MERIDIAN STAR _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON COUNTY APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF August 24, 2009

MCRAE RETIRES FROM ECCC

SPECIAL TO THE TIMES

After striving to "make learning fun" during 25 years of service teaching students on the secondary and post-secondary levels, Gloria McRae of Carthage is retiring as math instructor at East Central Community College in Decatur.

McRae, who has spent the past 15 years in the ECCC classroom, said she has "mixed feelings" about leaving her chosen profession.

"I am excited that I will be able to visit (and help out!) with my four precious granddaughters and have more time to, hopefully, straighten out my house," McRae stated. "But I also am a little sad to be leaving all of my friends at EC. I will miss EC and the EC family."

McRae, an ECCC alumnus and Forest High School graduate, said returning to her alma mater as instructor has been a "wonderful experience."

SUBMITTED PHOTO

Gloria McRae is retiring as math instructor at East Central Community College in Decatur. McRae, who resides in Carthage, served 15 years at East Central.

"EC holds a special place in my heart," she said. "As a student, I had a wonderful time…I learned a lot and also made friendships that continue to this day. As president of the ECCC Alumni Association in the '80s, I enjoyed getting back in touch with the College and seeing how much everything had changed."

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES ✓

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON COUNTY APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

Buildings / Programs

WEEK OF September 7, 2009

ECCC NOW A COMPTIA EDUCATION 2 CAREER CENTER

SUBMITTED PHOTO

The Computing Technology Industry Association (CompTIA), known worldwide as the leading provider of vender-neutral IT certifications and identify IT professionals who prove their aptitude in various fields, such as security, network administration, computer repair, and server administration, has named East Central Community College an Education 2 Career Center. "ECCC can now take advantage of the cost-savings benefit by offering exam vouchers with a fifty percent discount that benefits students and the area workforce," states Kyle James, (pictured right) ECCC Workforce Development Information Technology Specialist; Roger Whitlock (pictured left) is Dean of the ECCC Workforce Development Center. ECCC already has in place a Pearson VUE testing center in Decatur and Philadelphia to train and offer discounted testing vouchers.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

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NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

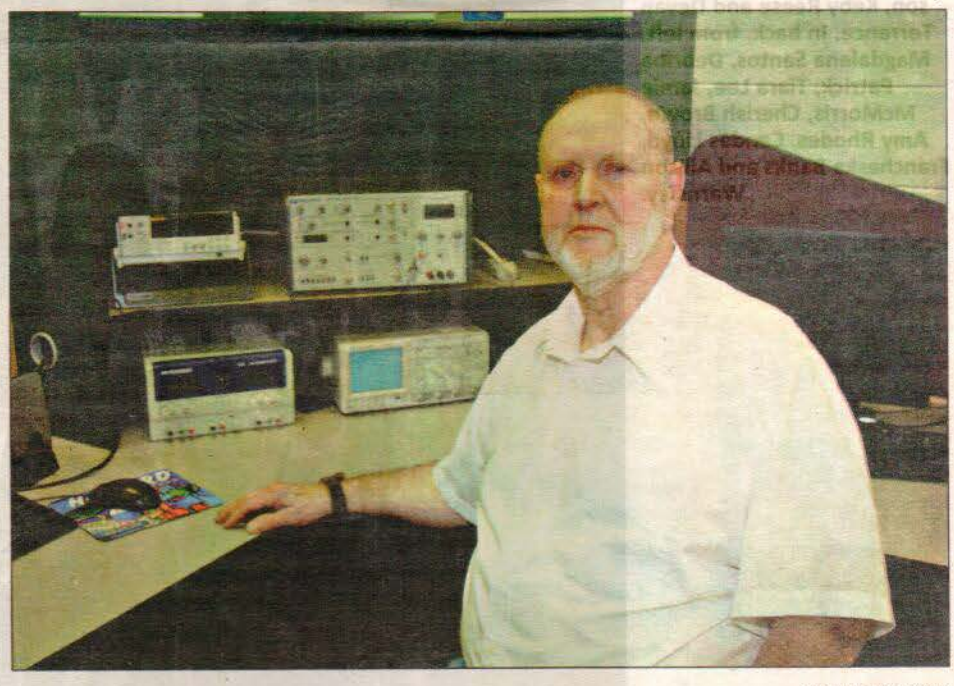
SCOTT COUNTY TIMES ✓

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF September 7, 2009

CLARK RETIRES FROM ECCC



SUBMITTED PHOTO

After serving 20 years as a classroom instructor, East Central Community College electronic technology instructor James Clark retired at the end of the spring 2009 term. Clark, who said he is ready "to move on to the next job," began his employment at ECCC in 1998. He is a graduate of Lewis County High School in Vanceburg, Kentucky, and received an associate's degree in consumer electronics and television service from Salano Community College in Suisun, California. He has 20 years of electrical/electronics experience in the Navy, 20 years work experience as an electronic engineer with Hughes Aircraft/Raytheon and three years experience teaching electronics at Salano Community College. He and his wife, Barbara, reside near Lake. They have a son, three grandchildren and three great grandchildren.

APPEARED IN:

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NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES ✓

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF September 14, 2009

ECCC event emphasizes career-technical programs

SPECIAL TO THE TIMES

Information on career-technical programs offered at East Central Community College will be available to area high school students during the annual Career-Technical Showcase planned on the Decatur campus.

Two events are once again scheduled to accommodate the expected large turnout, according to Wayne Eason, dean of career-technical education.

"We anticipate about 500 high school students to attend each event, which have proven to be excellent venues for recruiting purposes," Eason said. "By attending the 'Showcase,' students will have an excellent opportunity to interact with instructors of our career-technical programs as well as EC students while on campus. We are excited to have our special visitors on campus and look forward to having them as ECCC students in the future."

"Showcases" are scheduled for Tuesday, September 22 and Wednesday, September 23 in the South campus gym. Registration begins at 8:45 a.m. during which time the ECCC Drum Line will perform. Students will have the opportunity from 9 to 11 a.m. to receive information from career-technical faculty members by visiting the various information booths. Lunch will be provided from 11 a.m. to noon, with entertainment by Rico and the Border Patrol.

For more information contact ECCC Career-Technical Education, (601) 635-6211 or call toll free, (877) 462-3222, ext. 211. The e-mail address is weason@eccc.edu.

APPEARED IN:

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MERIDIAN STAR _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES ✓

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

September 14, 2009

STUDENTS REGISTER AT ECCC

SUBMITTED PHOTO

Lake High School graduate Maurice Williams (left) and West Lauderdale High School graduate Chris Watson (right) of Meridian were among students who participated in the July 22 Orientation session, held at East Central Community College in Decatur. They are shown with computer science instructor Deborah Hammons who assisted in preparing their fall class schedules.

WEEK OF September 14, 2009

East Central CC

■ Evadna M. Lyons was recently named an associate degree nursing instructor.

Lyons

She previously served as an assistant professor of nursing at the University of Southern Mississippi.

Lyons has a bachelor's degree in nursing from USM, a master's in nursing from the University of Mississippi Medical Center and a doctorate in educational leadership from Mississippi State University.

APPEARED IN:

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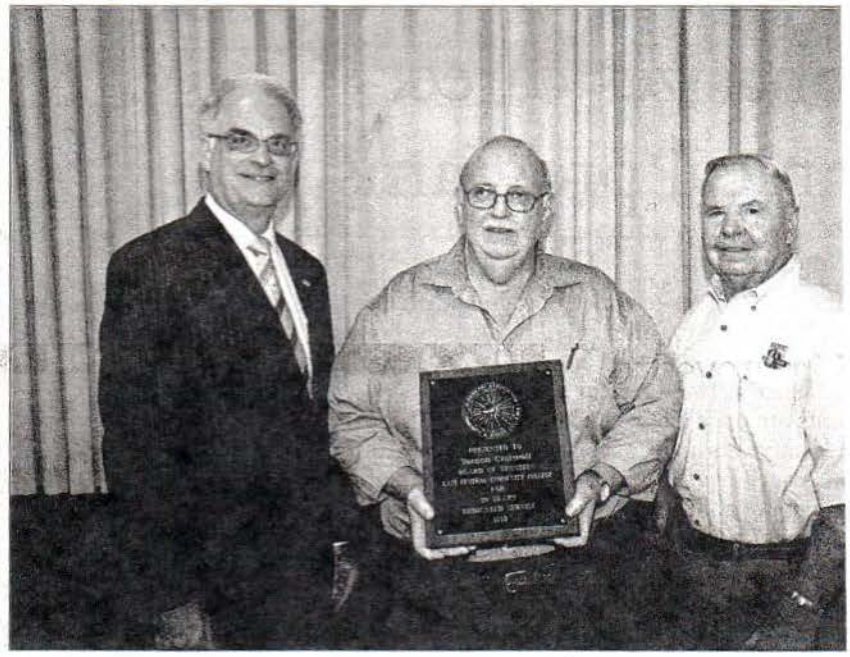
WEEK OF September 14, 2009

CROTWELL HONORED FOR ECCC SERV



SUBM

Vernon Crotwell (center) of Morton was recently recognized for his 20 years se member of the East Central Community College Board of Trustees. Crotwell w trustees from across the state who received the special recognition at the Mississ munity and Junior College Trustees' Association Conference held during July i plaque commemorating Crotwell for his service was presented by ECCC Preside A. Sutphin (left) and Board Chairman Prentice Copeland of Philadelphia at th trustees' meeting held on the Decatur campus.

APPEARED IN:

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NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

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WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

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WEEK OF September 14, 2009

Vick joins EC baseball staff

Hunter Vick of Thomasville, Ala., is a recent addition to the East Central Community College baseball staff, announced Neal Holliman, head coach.

Hunter Vick

Prior to joining the Diamond Warriors, Vick served in 2008 as an assistant coach with the Pensacola Pelicans, a professional team in Pensacola, Fla. His duties included serving as first base coach and providing instruction in hitting and fielding. He was also lead instructor for the Pelicans' Training Academy. In addition, he has participated in various coaching clinics and provides private and group lessons for baseball players of all ages.

He has several years experience in professional baseball, beginning in 2004 with the Pensacola Pelicans and concluding with the Vero Beach Devil Rays in 2007.

Vick is a former standout baseball player at Faulkner State Community College in Bay Minette, Ala., and at the University of West Florida, where he received a bachelor's degree in physical education.

EC tennis coach nets honor

East Central Community College assistant tennis coach Pat O'Neill was recently honored by The Intercollegiate Tennis Association, which named him Community and Junior College Assistant Coach of the Year for Region 23.

Pat O'Neill

O'Neill is an assistant to his wife, Dianne O'Neill, and Kyle Watson who share head coach duties.

Region 23 includes teams in Mississippi and Louisiana.

APPEARED IN:

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WEEK OF September 21, 2009

ECCC Auditorium named for longtime faculty member

The naming of a school auditorium in memory of a longtime faculty member was approved at the September 2009 meeting of the East Central Community College Board of Trustees.

The auditorium, located in Newton Hall, will now be known as the Thomas W. Thrash Auditorium, to honor his 40 years of service on the Decatur campus. A ceremony officially naming the facility has been scheduled for 2 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 15 in the auditorium. A reception will follow the dedication program.

"It is most appropriate that we name the auditorium in memory of Mr. Thrash," said ECCC President Dr. Phil A. Sutphin. "He was an outstanding instructor who lived and breathed East Central Community College, as evidenced by his long and successful career. He also taught many classes in the same auditorium that will now bear his name."

Thrash, who died on Sept. 6, 2002, served as Chairman of the Social Science, Education and Business Division in addition to teaching social science classes.

He received numerous awards throughout his career, which began and ended at ECCC.

He was selected Academic Instructor of the Year in 1987 and received an award for teaching excellence at the annual NISOD (National Institute for Staff and Organizational Development) Conference in 1989 at the University of Texas in Austin. In 1992, he was selected to participate in the annual Lamplighter Program, which recognizes the state's outstanding community and junior college instructors. He also participated in the Mississippi Community College Fellowship Program at Mississippi State University in 1998.

In addition, Thrash was recognized as the College's Humanities Teacher of the Year in 1999, an annual program sponsored by the Mississippi Humanities Council in celebration of Arts and Humanities Month. During his lecture, Thrash spoke on "The Impact of Rev. N.C. Clarke on Newton County, Miss." The Rev. Clarke, a great, great grandfather of Mr. Thrash, was the founder and first pastor of Clarke-Venable Baptist Church in Decatur. Clarke Memorial College in Newton was later named in his honor.

Thrash also served as campus coordinator for the Smithsonian exhibit, "Produce for Victory: Posters on the American Home Front, 1941-45," a collection of wartime posters provided by the Institution's Traveling Exhibition Services. The exhibit made its Mississippi debut at East Central in September 2001.

He was a member of Decatur United Methodist Church, the National Council of Instructional Administrators, Mississippi Faculty Association for Community and Junior Colleges, ECCC Alumni Association and Gamma Nu Chapter of Phi Alpha Theta at Mississippi State University.

Thrash was awarded lifetime membership in the Mississippi Jaycees and the Jaycee International Senate. He was presented numerous Distinguished Service awards during his tenure as Area Vice President of the Mississippi Jaycees.

He served in the Mississippi National Guard and was a member of the Decatur Country Club Board of Directors for more than 30 years.

Thrash was a graduate of Newton High School, ECJC and MSU, where he received bachelor and master's degrees. He completed additional studies at MSU and the University of Southern Mississippi.

He began his teaching career in 1962 at East Central. Thrash was married to the former Jeanette Beevers and they had two daughters, Mev and Melissa. Mev and her husband Robbie Knight have two children, Kelsi and Logan, and they reside in Meridian. Melissa is married to Robert Carleton and they have one child, Hob, and reside in Union.

APPEARED IN:

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WEEK OF September 21, 2009

Payton named head of Childcare Center

Debra M. Payton of Walnut Grove was recently selected Childcare Center director/Childhood Education instructor at East Central Community College in Decatur, announced Dr. Phil A. Sutphin, ECCC president.

Payton, who began her new duties on Aug. 14, previously served as manager for the Wonderful World Early Head Start Center in Walnut Grove, a position she held since 2001.

In that position, she was responsible for the day-to-day operations of the preschool facility, which holds accreditation from the National Association for the Education of Young Children.

Her experience also includes service as a caregiver/teacher for Friends of Children of Mississippi, Inc., in Carthage for 10 years.

PAYTON

She is a former member of the Leake County School Board, serving from 2002 to 2008.

During this period she received the Gold Bell Award from the Mississippi School Board Association for the highest number of hours in school board training for the year 2005.

She presently serves on the Oprah Winfrey Boys and Girls Club Board of Directors for Leake County and is also a member of Team Leake, South Leake PTO and Booster Club.

Payton is a member of Sweet Water Church of God in Christ.

Payton attended South Leake High School and graduated from Southridge High School in Indianapolis, Indiana. She holds an associate's degree in childcare technology from Hinds Community College in Raymond and continued her education at Jackson State University, where she earned a bachelor's degree in childcare and family education and a master's in education/early childhood education

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WEEK OF September 27, 2009

East Central Community College

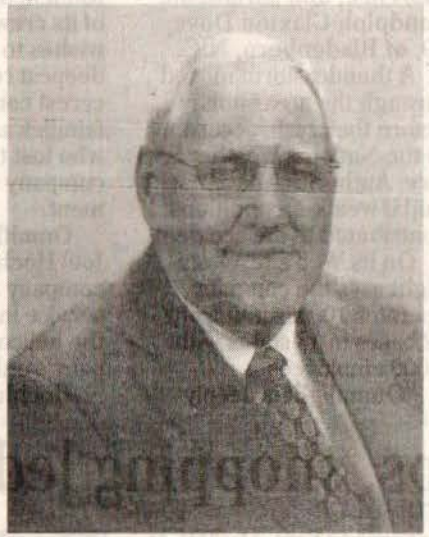
HOMECOMING 2009

"Pride in the Past, Faith in the Future"

Saturday, October 3

2009 Alumni Association Honorees

Alumna of the Year
Mary Rosalyn Rogers Folks
Class of 1964



Alumnus of the Year
Jack Winstead
Class of 1956

Athletic Hall of Fame
Donald Acton
Class of 1953

Athletic Hall of Fame
Wanda Blackwell McPhail
Class of 1971

September 21, 200

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

7 a.m.	**Homecoming 5K Run/Walk**
	North Campus
8:30 to 11:30 a.m.	**Bookstore Open**
	Eddie M. Smith Student Union
9 a.m.	**Homecoming Registration Begins**
	East Mall Patio near Mabry Memorial Cafeteria
	Refreshments Available on the East Mall
9 a.m. to 11 a.m.	**Memorabilia Room Open**
	Burton Library
	Founders' Gym Open
9 a.m. to 2 p.m.	**Tailgating, Music & Other Activities**
	Band Practice Field
10 a.m.	**Reunion Groups Meet**
	• Class of 1949
	Newton Hall, Room 60
	• Classes of 1957, 1958 and 1959
	Vickers Fine Arts Center, Auditorium
	• Basketball Teams Coached by Joe Clark (1964-1976)
	Newton Hall, Room 92
	• Basketball Teams Coached by Marty Cooper (1991-1998)
	Newton Hall, Room 90
	• Musicals Directed by Bruce Peterson
	1974 Camelot • 1979 Mame • 1982 Carousel • 1985 Oklahoma
	Vickers Fine Arts Center, Room 506
10:30 a.m.	**Awarding of 50th Anniversary Diplomas to Class of 1959**
	Vickers Fine Arts Center, Auditorium
11 a.m.	**Warrior Club Annual Meeting**
	Vincent Administration Building, Board Room
	(All former athletes and current
	supporters of athletics at East Central.)
Noon	**Alumni Luncheon**
	Mabry Memorial Cafeteria
2:30 p.m.	**Football Game**-ECCC vs. Northeast
	Halftime: ***Recognition of Homecoming Honorees,***
	Presentation of the Queen and Court and
	Performance by the Wall O' Sound Marching Band

September 21, 2009

Homecoming Court

Members of the 2009 Homecoming Court and their respective high schools include (front row, from left) queen Reshetta Benton, Forest; and maid-of-honor Hannah Lee, Leake Academy; (second row, from left) sophomore maids Kimberly Blackwell and Anna Fulton, both of Nanih Waiya; and Allison Lowery, Winston Academy; and (back row, from left) Alexis Young, Newton County; Sarah Breland, Neshoba Central; and Breanna Foley and Celia Boggan, both of Newton County.

5K Run/ Walk
7 a.m.
North Campus

WEEK OF September 28, 2009

East Central (Miss.) Adds Two Athletic Hall of Fame Members

September 29, 2009

East Central Community College will add two members to its Athletic Hall of Fame during homecoming activities scheduled Saturday, Oct. 3 on the Decatur campus.

Joining the prestigious group are Wanda Blackwell McPhail of Collinsville and Don Acton of Knoxville, Tenn.

McPhail, a 1971 ECCC graduate, has led her Meridian Community College men's and women's tennis teams to several state and region championships and has garnered various coaching honors in the process. She has received Region 23 and MACJC Tennis Coach of the Year on several occasions and was named 2007 recipient of the Hershel Stephens Men's Tennis National Coaching Award. She was also a standout member on ECCC's basketball, tennis and volleyball teams and helped lead the Lady Warriors to state titles in basketball and volleyball. She was also an athletic standout at Union High School.

Acton, a 1953 ECCC graduate, was a lineman and kicker on the 1951 and 1952 Warrior football teams and served as co-captain. He was also captain of the 1952 and 1953 Warrior baseball teams, posting batting averages of .335 and .356. He continued his athletic career at Bethel College in McKenzie, Tenn., where he again excelled in baseball and was a member of the tennis team. Acton coached football, baseball, golf, softball, basketball and track mostly on the high school level in Kentucky and Alabama and won 87 percent of all games played. His teams also earned regional and state titles. Acton continued his athletic career by participating in the Senior Olympics and winning several gold medals. He is a native of Vincent, Ala.

For more information on the 2009 ECCC Homecoming, contact Stacey Hollingsworth, executive director for foundation and alumni relations, 601-635-2111 or call toll free, 877-462-3222, ext. 327. Her e-mail address is sholling@eccc.edu.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

NEWTON COUNTY APPEAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

Other √x2 (NJCAA web site)

WEEK OF September 28, 2009

Finalizing ECCC Homecoming Plans

Making final preparations for East Central Community College's homecoming activities, scheduled Saturday, Oct 3, are the above Alumni Association officers and board of directors who recently held their fall semester meeting on the Decatur campus. Seated from left are Dr. Bob Tom Johnson of Forest, Association vice president; Flo Harkins Henley of Starkville, out-of-district representative; Stacey Hollingsworth, ECCC executive director for foundation and alumni relations; and biology instructor Sharon LeJeune, ECCC faculty club president. Standing from left are Dr. Phil A. Sutphin, ECCC president; James Vance of Meridian, out-of-district representative; county representatives Dow Thomas of Louisville and Matt Alford and Bill Freeman, both of Forest; and Joe Killens ECCC vice president for student services. For more information on the 2009 homecoming celebration, contac Stacey Hollingsworth, 601-635-2111 or call toll free, 877-462-3222, ext. 327. Her e-mail address is sholling@eccc.edu. (EC Photo)

APPEARED IN:

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NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

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WEEK OF September 28, 2009

East Central Hall of Fame

Finding her 'match' leads McPhail to Hall

from school reports

She first held a tennis racket when she was "recruited" to play the sport at East Central Community College in Decatur. Her career in coaching was also not planned but something she was more-or-less forced to do.

But the sport has become a perfect "match" for Wanda Blackwell McPhail, whose success as Meridian Community College's tennis coach has landed the Collinsville resident in the ECCC Athletic Hall of Fame. She will be enshrined into the prestigious group during ECCC's homecoming activities scheduled Saturday.

McPhail

McPhail referred to her upcoming induction as "one of the greatest honors I have received in my life."

"To receive an award like this is just icing on the cake," said McPhail, whose list of honors include her selection as NJCAA Region XXIII Tennis Coach of the Year for 2008-09 after leading her MCC women and men's teams to Region 23 titles and berths in the national tournament. "I was so pleased when as a student I was named to the ECJC Hall of Fame, and I am again so pleased to be honored by my alma mater."

Longtime ECCC faculty member Lucille Wood nominated her former player for the honor.

Academic All-Americans.

Coach McPhail's honors are also impressive. In addition to her 2008-09 national accolades, she has been chosen Region 23 Women's Coach of the Year on six occasions; Mississippi Association of Coaches (MAC) Men's and Women's Tennis Coach of the Year (four times); MACJC Women's Coach of the Year (five times); MACJC Men's Coach of the Year (five times); and received the Hershel Stephen's Coaching Award in 2007, an honor voted on by men coaches recognizing outstanding service and dedication to men's tennis on the national level.

In addition, she is presently the president and formerly vice president and secretary of the NJCAA Tennis Coaches' Association and served several terms as secretary of the MACJC Coaches' Association. She is now serving a term on the ITA Board of Directors.

The fact that McPhail has experienced a successful career as tennis coach has really been somewhat of a surprise to the Union native, especially since she knew little about the sport until arriving as a student-athlete at ECCC following a successful basketball and track career at Union.

McPhail, who entered East Central in the fall of 1969 to play basketball for coach Wood's Warriorettes, recalled the first day she was "introduced" to tennis.

"As an athlete, my time at East Central was special," she said. "I had never played tennis in my life and

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September 28, 2009

"Wanda has played a major role in promoting tennis in high schools, community and junior colleges in Mississippi, Region 23 and throughout the nation," said Wood. "She has received several "Coach of the Year" honors and numerous national awards. Wanda demonstrated her excellence in coaching by taking more teams to national tournaments and receiving more national rankings than any other coach among her colleagues."

In addition to McPhail's 2008 tennis squads earning regional titles, the men's team was also recognized as the sports' NJCAA Academic Team of the Year for achieving a 3.69 grade point average. In 2009, two players — one from each team — were chosen to receive the Arthur Ashe National Sportsmanship Award.

can't recall if I had every really seen a tennis racket! But coach Wood told me that I was going to play tennis, so I did. I became so passionate about tennis that I would sometimes practice from noon to 'dark thirty' during the spring semester. I never dreamed that tennis would turn out to be so important in my life or bring so much success."

McPhail said the "highlight" of her tennis experience at EC came during her sophomore year when she and doubles partner Lucy Young (also an ECCC Athletic Hall of Fame member were runners-up in the stat tournament. Young's first experience at tennis was also when coach Wood "recruited" her for the squad!

She also recalled a few other "highlights" related to the sport.

"Our manager, Susan Shoemaker, was playing

But success is nothing new for McPhail, who took over the MCC program in 2000 and also serves as an English instructor.

Her women's team record is 140-41. In addition to winning the 2009 Region 23 title, her squads posted regional and MACJC (Mississippi Association of Community and Junior Colleges) State championships from 2003-2006 and were regional and state runners-ups in 2004 and 2005. Her Lady Eagles advanced to the NJCAA National Tournament during the 2002 to 2009 campaigns and were nationally ranked each season. Three of her players were named Intercollegiate Tennis Association All-Americans and eight were selected NJCAA Academic All-Americans.

The men's record is even more impressive at 145-33. In addition to winning the Region 23 title in 2009, the Eagles captured region championships in 2002, 2004, 2005, 2007 and 2008, and were MACJC State Champions in 2004, 2005, 2007 and 2008. The MCC men were region and state runners-up in 2003 and 2006, and advanced to the NJCAA National Tournament from 2002 to 2008. They were also nationally ranked during that time period. In addition, six Eagles were chosen ITA

(tennis) one day and decided to jump the net," McPhail said. "But to our horror, her foot got hung in the net, and she fell and hurt her head. We were all scared to death that she had really hurt herself. She had a 'bump' for quite a while, which served as a reminder to all us not to try that trick!"

Another "highlight" was probably more of an embarrassment for McPhail.

"We were playing tennis at Perkinston. My dad was in the VA hospital, so I was a little strung out the whole semester," she said. "And to make matters worse, I left my tennis shoes at home! My memory is that I played barefooted...but coach Wood's memory is that I had to borrow tennis shoes from a Gulf Coast player. But regardless, I never forgot my tennis shoes again or any other piece of equipment!"

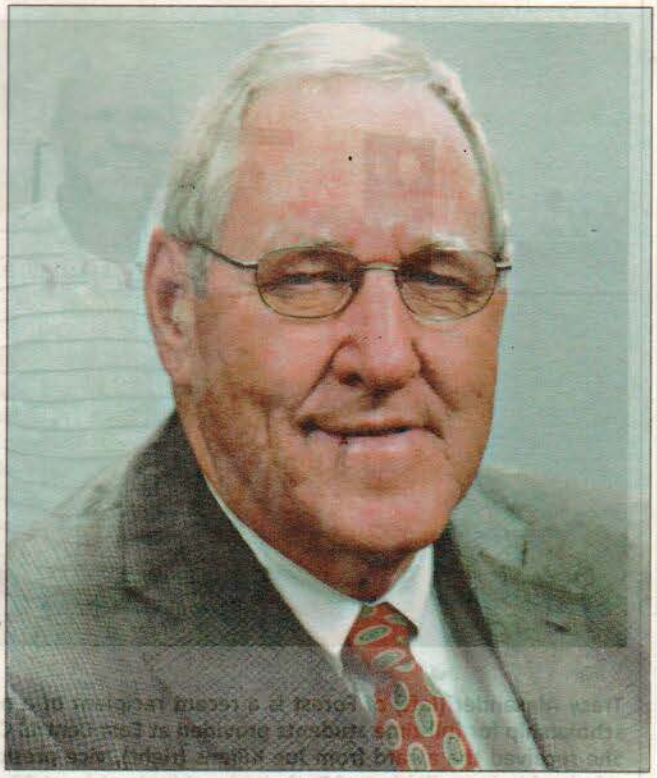
McPhail's passion also included playing basketball for ECCC and being a member of coach Wood's 1969-70 and 1970-71 squads. McPhail was actually planning to attend MUW and play basketball...but credits the late Denver Brackeen (former EC coach/administrator) for "encouraging me to play basketball for ECJC."

She never regretted the decision.

WEEK OF October 5, 2009

Winstead selected ECC

SPECIAL TO THE TIMES



Jack Winstead

Jack Winstead of Lawrence, a member of the class of 1956, was recently named Alumnus of the Year at East Central Community College in Decatur and was honored at a luncheon on Saturday, October 3, during homecoming festivities. When notified of his selection, Winstead said he was "truly honored."

"I am especially thankful to my dear friend, the late Clinton Russell, who nominated me for this honor and to the committee that made the selection. When I think of the hundreds of people who could have been selected, I am even more honored. I must admit that this puts me in a very special group when I look over the list of past recipients."

In nominating Winstead for the award, Russell wrote, "Although charged with statewide responsibilities, Jack Winstead always maintained a special interest in helping the people of East Central Mississippi."

"Projects in this area in which he is very proud to have played a vital role include the development, funding and construction of floodwater retarding structures in the Chunky River Water Management District; the Turkey Creek recreation area; stream channel stabilization projects in the towns of Union cator in Mississippi by the Mississippi Wildlife Federation.

In addition to farming, Winstead serves on several boards and commissions including the ECCC Board of Trustees, where he serves as vice chairman. He is also chairman of the board of the Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality, president of the board of the Pearl River Water Supply District (Barnett Reservoir), vice chairman of the board of Southern AgCredit (formerly Federal Land Bank) and member of the board of the Newton County Soil and Water Conservation District.

"Arlington of the South," for the East Central area. This will be such an asset to the state and county while providing a beautiful resting place for those, and their spouses, that have served our country."

Winstead's association with East Central Community College began during his days as a student in the 1950s.

"I guess my greatest apprehension as a student was Mr. Cross' chemistry class," Winstead said. "Here was I, an agriculture student, competing with future doctors, scientists and the like, but somehow I managed to survive."

He also worked part-

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October 5, 2009

and Newton; the construction of Bonita Lakes in Meridian; and the stream channel stabilization project on Sowashee Creek."

Winstead and his wife, the former Jeanette Cain of Sallis, currently operate a timber and cattle farm in Newton and Neshoba counties. He retired from the Natural Resource Conservation Service as deputy state conservationist after 35 years with the department. Jeanette is retired from the United States Courts as administrative assistant to Chief Judge Charles Clark, U.S. Court of Appeals, 5th Circuit.

"I have continued my conservation activities since retirement," Winstead said, "by volunteering as a support person and by practicing conservation on my own farm."

Winstead was rewarded for his conservation efforts by being named to the Conservation Hall of Fame for the Southeastern United States.

He has also been honored as the outstanding conservationist for the state of Mississippi, was twice selected to receive the Mississippi Association of Conservation Districts President's Distinguished Service Award and was selected as the outstanding conservation edu-

Winstead said it has been an honor to serve on the ECCC Board of Trustees.

"East Central is a wonderful institution. It has enabled thousands of young people to prepare for their futures. I have been honored to serve on its board of trustees for the past 12 years. We have a great staff and I have served under two outstanding presidents, Dr. Eddie Smith and Dr. Phil Sutphin."

His most recent volunteer efforts have been in helping locate and secure a site for Mississippi's first state veterans cemetery, a proposed $7 million project, slated to begin construction this year.

"This has probably been the highlight of my volunteer services," Winstead said. "For this effort, I was selected as Newton County's "Man of the Year" by *The Newton Record* in 2007. I now serve as president of the nine-member state board known as "Friends of Mississippi Veterans."

Melvin Tingle of Decatur, in a letter supporting Winstead's nomination, wrote, "Serving his country and being a veteran himself, Jack was very interested in securing this cemetery, called the time on the college farm.

Dr. Brad Tucker, a former instructor and Dean of Instruction at the college, wrote, "I had the pleasure of teaching Jack several courses, serving as his academic advisor and observing his part-time work on the college farm. He always worked after school and during the summers to help pay for college expenses. Along with several of his classmates, he secured summer employment with the Soil Conservation Service. Not only did this help pay his college expenses, it secured for him some critical seniority, which allowed him to begin work after graduation at a higher pay grade with a permanent rating."

Dr. Tucker, along with Frank Rives, was one of Winstead's favorite instructors.

Winstead said, "Two professors that stand out as my all-time favorites and who greatly encouraged me were Mr. Frank Rives and Dr. Brad Tucker. By the way, these two gentlemen remain very special to me, as I now attend church with them each week after being away for 50 years. I never had a class under Ovid Vickers, but I always admired him and appreciated his loyalty to ECCC."

October 5, 2000

C Alumnus of the Year

Winstead said there have been many people along the way who have had a great influence on his life and career.

He said, "First and foremost would be my parents, the late Mr. and Mrs. Carl Winstead of the House community in Neshoba County, and my brothers and sisters. When we were growing up, Christian love, an honest day's work and respect for others were normal activities at our home. I have been greatly influenced by my wife and children and now, more than ever, by my grandchildren.

"People who have influenced me in my professional and Christian life are many. I have truly been blessed by my co-workers, my pastors through the years and my fellow church members."

In a letter endorsing the nomination of Winstead as Alumnus of the Year, Dr. Tucker also wrote, "Jack Winstead has always represented East Central well. For example, at his retirement banquet in Jackson some 12 to 15 years ago, he had me to stand while he told the more than 100 present (from municipal, state and federal governments, his neighbors and friends) what East Central Community College had meant to him and his career."

The Winsteads have three surviving children: son, Allen Winstead and wife, Kristen; and daughters, Leslie Hales and husband, Lester, and Lori Brechtel and husband, Michael. Allen serves as minister of education at First Baptist Church in Senatobia; Leslie is a former office space designer and is now a house parent at Big Oak Boys Ranch in Gadsden, AL; and Lori is a former art director for *Mississippi Magazine* and is now a stay-at-home mother and lives in Brandon. Daughter Debbie Jones died of breast cancer at age 32. They also have seven grandchildren. Winstead's first wife, the former Mary Gilmore of Stonewall, died in 1987.

Winstead completed his bachelor's degree from Mississippi State University in 1958 and completed additional graduate work at Mississippi State University and the University of Oklahoma.

WEEK OF October 5, 2009

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ECCC HOMECOMING HONOREES

SUBMITTED PHOTO

These East Central Community College alumni received honors at the 2009 Homecoming celebration held Oct. 3, on the Decatur campus. From left are Jack Winstead (Class of 1956) of Lawrence, "Alumnus of the Year;" Mary Rosalyn Rogers Folks (Class of 1964) of Picayune, "Alumna of the Year;" and Wanda Blackwell McPhail (Class of 1971) of Collinsville and Donald Acton (Class of 1953) of Knoxville, Tenn., who were inducted into the college's Athletic Hall of Fame. The presentations were made at the annual Alumni Luncheon held in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria.

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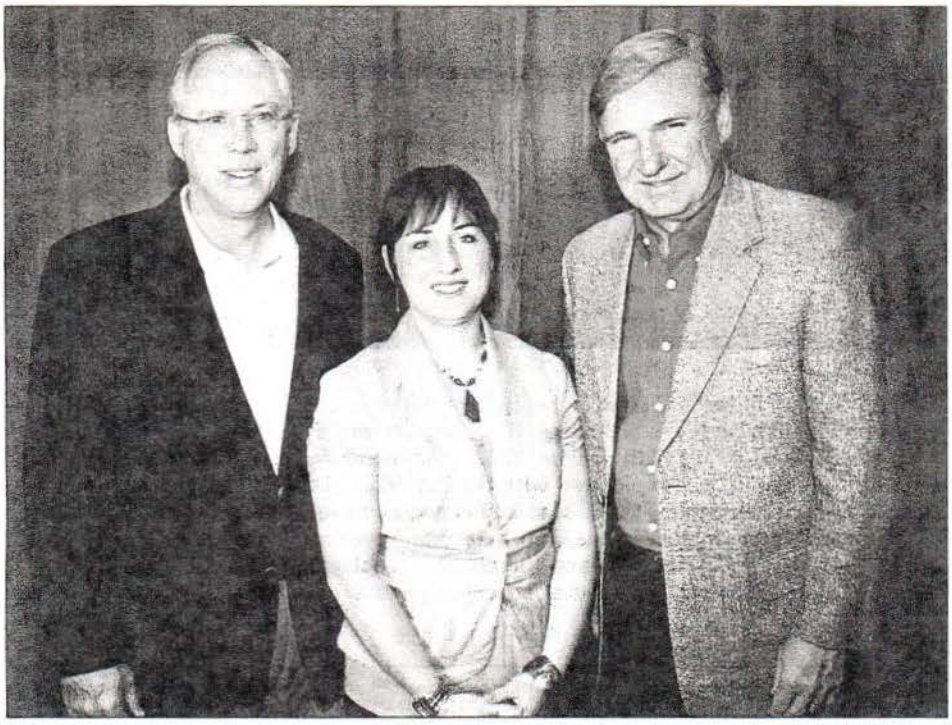
WEEK OF October 5, 2009

FELTON PRESENTED STATE FARM SCHOLARSHIP TO ECCC



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Jennifer Felton (center) of Lawrence is the 2009 recipient of the State Farm Insurance Company Scholarship provided at East Central Community College in Decatur. Felton, 27, is a freshman elementary education major. The nontraditional student is a 2000 graduate of Newton County Academy. She is married to Jason Felton and they have two young children, Brandon and Natali. Pictured with the scholarship recipient are State Farm agents Bob Douglas (left) of Newton and Sam Nowell of Philadelphia. The State Farm Insurance Company Scholarship was established to provide financial assistance to older students who reside in the ECCC district, which includes Leake, Neshoba, Newton, Scott and Winston counties. For more information contact ECCC Student Services, (601) 635-2111 or call toll free, (877) 462-3222, ext. 205. The e-mail address is jkillens@eccc.edu.

APPEARED IN:

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WEEK OF October 12, 2009

WAL-MART ASSISTS ECCC

SUBMITTED PHOTO

Marlene Kirkland (left), assistant manager at the Wal-Mart Supercenter in Philadelphia, is shown presenting a $1,000 check to Coby Clay, assistant police chief at East Central Community College in Decatur. Clay said the donation will be used to purchase camera equipment and office supplies for the College's recently established police department.

APPEARED IN:

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WEEK OF October 12, 2009

60TH ECCC CLASS REUNION

The Class of 1949 was among special groups honored at East Central Community College during Oct. 3 homecoming festivities on the Decatur campus. Attending their 60th class reunion were (seated, from left) Allan Mapp of Clinton, Jamie Etheridge Harrell of Rayville, La.; Sara Cagle Crawford of Marion, Ark.; Mary Evelyn Kennedy Pike of Hideaway, Texas; Sara McDonald Hardin of Columbus, Sibb Hutchinson of Centennial, Co., and Irene Lewis of Newton; and (standing, from left) Jesse Harris of Suwanee, Ga.; John Blount of Decatur, Clyde Muse of Raymond, James Breland of Cleveland, Bill Lewis of Newton, A.P. "Pat" Posey of Meridian and Hershel Turner of Clinton. Not pictured are Milbur Posey of Meridian and Gene Earp of Baton Rouge, La.

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WEEK OF October 12, 2009

'SPIRITED' ECCC STAFFERS

WIN

This "live" homecoming scene featuring mostly East Central Community College staff members received top honors in the annual display competition held as part of homecoming activities Oct. 3 on the Decatur campus. In front, from left, are Joe Killens, vice president of student services, shown portraying ECCC President Dr. Phil A. Sutphin after he crowns "Queen" Romonica Evans, recruiter/Tech Prep Center director; and (in back, from left) "Wall O' Sound Band member" Chris Clark, workforce development coordinator; "Centralette" Brenda Cheatham, secretary to the vice president for student services; "Warrior fan" Keli Barrett of Decatur, ECCC freshman; and "cheerleader" Lanette Hanna and "Warrior football player" Michael Alexander, academic counselors. The spirited group represented Warrior Corps and the Student Body Association, which received the $175 first-place prize. Also receiving cash prizes were ECSTR (Surgical Technology), second place, $150; College publications (yearbook and newspaper), third, $100; and SkillsUSA and Phi Beta Lambda, fourth, $75. The homecoming display competition is coordinated though the Office of Adult and Continuing Education.

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WEEK OF October 19, 2009

ECCC Auditorium named for longtime faculty

SPECIAL TO THE TIMES

The naming of a school auditorium in memory of a longtime faculty member was approved at the September 2009 meeting of the East Central Community College Board of Trustees.

The auditorium, located in Newton Hall, will now be known as the Thomas W. Thrash Auditorium, to honor his 40 years of service on the Decatur campus. A ceremony officially naming the facility has been scheduled for 2 p.m. Sunday, November 15 in the auditorium.

A reception will follow the dedication program.

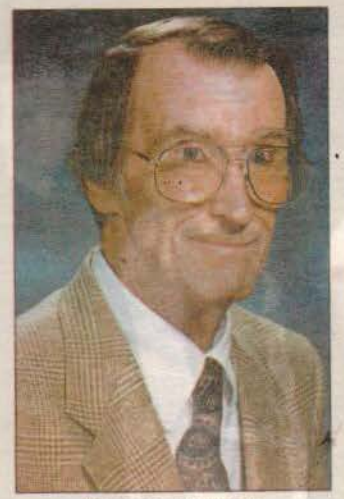
"It is most appropriate that we name the auditorium in memory of Mr. Thrash," said ECCC President Dr. Phil A. Sutphin. "He was an outstanding instructor who lived and breathed East Central Community College, as evidenced by his long and successful career. He also taught many classes in the same auditorium that will now bear his name."

Thrash, who died on Sept. 6, 2002, served as Chairman of the Social Science, Education and Business Division in addition to teaching social science classes.

He received numerous awards throughout his career, which began and ended at ECCC.

He was selected Academic Instructor of the Year in 1987 and received an award for teaching excellence at the annual NISOD (National Institute for Staff and Organizational Development) Conference in 1989 at the University of Texas in Austin.

In 1992, he was selected to participate in the annual Lamplighter Program,



Thomas J. Thrash

munity and junior college instructors. He also participated in the Mississippi Community College Fellowship Program at Mississippi State University in 1998.

In addition, Thrash was recognized as the College's Humanities Teacher of the Year in 1999, an annual program sponsored by the Mississippi Humanities Council in celebration of Arts and Humanities Month. During his lecture, Thrash spoke on "The Impact of Rev. N.C. Clarke on Newton County, Miss." The Rev. Clarke, a great, great grandfather of Mr. Thrash, was the founder and first pastor of Clarke-Venable Baptist Church in Decatur. Clarke Memorial College in Newton was later named in his honor.

Thrash also served as campus coordinator for the Smithsonian exhibit, "Produce for Victory: Posters on the American Home Front, 1941-45," a collection of wartime posters provided by the Institution's Traveling Exhibition Services. The exhibit made its Mississippi debut at East Central in September 2001.

He was a member of Decatur United Methodist Church, the National Council of Instructional Administrators, Mississippi Faculty Association for Community and Junior Colleges, ECCC Alumni Association and Gamma Nu Chapter of Phi Alpha Theta at Mississippi State University.

Thrash was awarded lifetime membership in the Mississippi Jaycees and the Jaycee International Senate.

He was presented numerous Distinguished Service awards during his tenure as Area Vice President of the Mississippi Jaycees.

He served in the Mississippi National Guard and was a member of the Decatur Country Club Board of Directors for more than 30 years.

Thrash was a graduate of Newton High School, ECJC and MSU, where he received bachelor and master's degrees.

He completed additional studies at MSU and the University of Southern Mississippi.

He began his teaching career in 1962 at East Central.

Thrash was married to the former Jeanette Beevers and they have two daughters, Mev and Melissa. Mev and her husband Robbie Knight have two children, Kelsi and Logan, and they reside in Meridian. Melissa is married to Robert Carleton and they have one child, Hob, and

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WEEK OF October 19, 2009

Choral festival at ECCC

The East Central Community College Division of Fine Arts will host its annual High School Choral Festival Thursday, Oct. 22, on the Decatur campus.

High school choirs from throughout the district, which includes Leake, Neshoba Newton, Scott and Winston counties, will be in attendance and will present a mass choir performance at 1:30 p.m. in Huff Auditorium.

Selections for the program will include "The Word Was God," by Powell, "Kyrie" by Gabriella and "Wade in the Water" by Hogan.

Parents are invited to attend and there is no charge for admission.

Serving as guest clinician will be James Hawkins, choir director at Jim Hill High School in Jackson since 1992. Three of Hawkins' choirs recently received top honors at the Festival of Music in Toronto, Canada.

His choirs have also performed at Carnegie Hall, the Morman Tabernacle Cathedral for the Congressional Black Caucus in Washington, D.C., for former President George H.W. Bush during a visit to Jackson, and in Great Britain, Italy, Hawaii and Puerto Rico.

For more information, contact ECCC choral director Vicki Blaylock at 601-635-6225.

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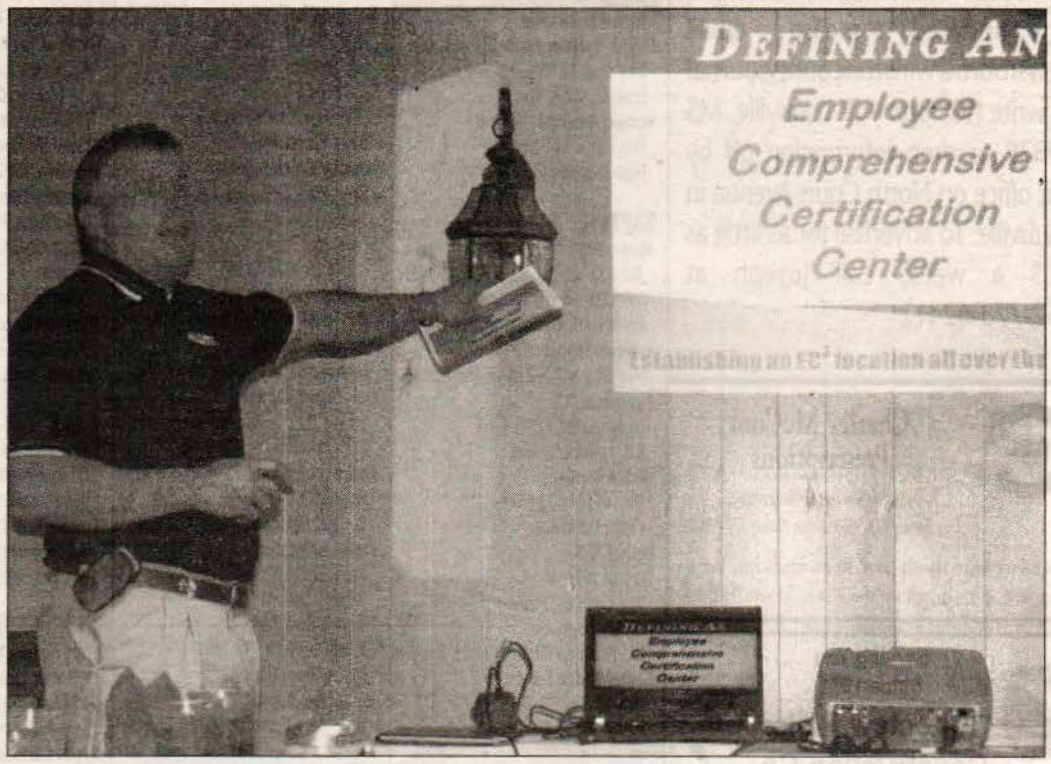
WEEK OF October 26, 2009

Rotary hosts ECCC speakers



Staffers from the East Central Community College Workforce Development Center were the guest speakers at the October 21 Louisville Rotary Meeting. Chris Clark, ECCC Workforce Development Coordinator spoke of the growing number of truck driving classes that are being offered in Louisville and the importance of bringing the training locally. Joseph Knight (pictured), ECCC Workforce Development Advanced Skills Training Coordinator, spoke of establishing Employee Comprehensive Certification Centers (EC3) all over the state using technologically advanced training in order to better prepare our workforce to compete globally. ECCC has begun this effort in three of their five counties in their district. The Career Advancement Center in Louisville, located at the old Spartus facility, is the second to open with the first being in Philadelphia and the third in Newton. Knight went on to introduce Shelley Thomas, the newest member of the workforce development team who will serve as an advanced skills trainer at the Louisville facility. For more information on classes and training available, contact Clark, Phone 601-635-6245 or call toll free, 1-877-462-3222, ext. 245, Knight, Phone 601-389-0832, or Thomas, Phone 662-580-4424 within the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. Their email addresses are cclark@eccc.edu, jknight@eccc.edu and sthomas@eccc.edu. Visit the ECCC Workforce Development Center webpage at www.eccc.edu/workforce. (EC Photo)

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WEEK OF November 2, 2009

Pinson named ECCC Housing Director

SPECIAL TO THE TIMES

Marcie Pinson of Little Rock was recently named Director of Housing/Student Activities at East Central Community College in Decatur, announced Dr. Phil A. Sutphin, ECCC president.

Pinson, who began her new duties on Oct. 26, 2009, previously served the College as secretary to the vice president of student services and student recruiter, a position she held since January 2007.

Marcie Pinson

Prior to joining the ECCC staff, Pinson served as a psychosocial rehabilitation counselor at Weems Community Health Center. She is also a former loan administrator assistant at Community Bank in Forest.

A graduate of Scott Central High School, Pinson holds an associate's degree from ECCC and a bachelor's in educational psychology from Mississippi State University.

She is married to Toby Pinson and they have two children, Madelyn Klaire and Marleigh Rhea.

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WEEK OF November 2, 2009

Shelley Thomas joins ECCC workforce staff

Shelley Cresswell Thomas of Louisville has joined the Workforce Development Center staff at East Central Community College in Decatur, announced Dr. Phil A. Sutphin, College president.

Thomas, who began her new duties on Oct. 14, 2009, serves as one of the Center's advanced skills trainers. Her office is located at the College's Workforce Development-Career Advancement Center in Louisville.

In this new position, Thomas is primarily responsible "for working with individuals, industries, businesses and communities through the Louisville site to establish needed training programs and offer special services to dislocated workers as coordinated by the Workforce Development Center staff," according to Roger Whitlock, Center director.

Prior to joining the ECCC staff, Thomas was employed with Georgia-Pacific, LLC in Louisville, where she served as talent and learning development/training specialist and conducted numerous training sessions for ECCC.

She is also a former marketing and public relations coordinator for the Department of Housing and Residence Life at Mississippi State University.

A Satartia, Miss., native, Thomas is a graduate of Tri-County Academy and MSU, where she received a bachelor's degree in educational psychology and a master's in counselor education.

Thomas is a member of First United Methodist Church of Louisville and the Junior Auxiliary of Louisville.

She is married to Dow Thomas, an assistant vice president at Renasant Bank in Louisville. They have two children, Kaitlyn and Fin.

Thomas

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WEEK OF November 9, 2009

Foreman named ECCC Physical Plant Director

John Arthur (Artie) Foreman of Little Rock was recently selected Director of the Physical Plant at East Central Community College in Decatur, announced ECCC President Dr. Phil A. Sutphin.

Forman, who began his new duties on Oct. 14, 2009, joined the College's maintenance department in 1993. He was promoted to grounds supervisor in 1997 and was chosen supervisor of maintenance in 2001.

Dr. Sutphin said Foreman's "long tenure with the College and his ever increasing responsibilities" make him an "excellent choice" as physical plant director.

He added, "Mr. Foreman's depth of knowledge about this campus is extensive and his contribution to meetings architects and contractors been extremely valuable. S the death of Mr. Clinton Ru Mr. Foreman has, for all prac purposes, been the on-the-gr supervisor for the phy plant."

A 1988 graduate of Be Hubbard High School, Fore received an associate in ap science degree in drafting design technology from ECC 1990.

He is married to the fo Pam Monroe of Meridian. T have a son, Peyton Foreman, a sev grader at Newton County Middle Scho

The Foremans are members of Hope Baptist Church in Little Rock, where A is a deacon and serves as youth direct

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Music, art featured at EC

WEEK OF November 9, 2009

Christmas music and various forms of artwork await those attending the annual East Central Community College Concert Choir Fall Concert and Art Show scheduled Thursday, Nov. 19 on the Decatur campus.

The concert choir performance begins at 7 p.m. in the Vickers Fine Arts Center auditorium. Art work will be available for viewing in the Fine Arts lobby prior to and following the concert.

Admission is free to both events.

"We want to invite everyone to attend the concert and hear some wonderful Christmas songs performed by some very talented students," said Vicki Blaylock, now in her second year as concert choir director.

Selections include, "The Hands of Winter" by Hayes; "Gloria in Excelsis," by Mozart; "Carol of the Bells," arranged by Shaw; "Sweet Little Jesus Boy," arranged by Berg; "Hodie Christus Natus Est," arranged by Hayes; and "The Twelve Days After Christmas," arranged by Silver.

Concert choir members and their respective high schools include Ashley Amis, Colton Amis, Celia Boggan, Brandon Boulton, Ashley Dumas, Patrick Ezell, Brian Felton, Richie Ferguson, Whitley Fisher, Lane Fulton, Elise Gibbs, Lacey Gilmore, Cole Harris, Drew Harrison, Jessica Harrison, Tiffany Hennington, Heather Hogue, Brandon Hughes, Courtney Lanier, Melody Mann, Emily Pace, Tiffany Spence, Cody Strait, Polly Vaughn, Monica Vincent and Cameron Weaver, all of Newton County High School; Hank Benson, Neshoba Central; Audrey Cannon, Northwest Rankin; Jessica Cherry, Clorbin Jenkins, Drew Johnston, James Latiker, and D. J. Townsend, all of Carthage; Tyler Comans, Sebastopol; Jonathan Crabtree, Warren Central; Jeri Lynn Crosby, Scott Central; J'Markus DuBose and Jordan Smith, both of Union; Kristen Everett, Brittany Harrison and Ronnie White, all of Forest; Nickie Farmer, Camp Shelby YCA; Courtney Gammill, Jordan Gunn and Laura Gunn, all of Lake; Lance Goodin, Nanih Waiya; Jackie Leggette, Meridian; Stacy

Fall Concert

Henderson, Raleigh; Britney Jefferson, South Panola; Jared Mullins, Faith Christian; Anna Powell, Philadelphia; Casey Rowzee, Newton County Academy; Ayla Smith, Miss. School of the Arts; and Jordan Vance, Trinity Episcopal.

Second-year art instructor Christopher Brady is also pleased with the artistic talent of students in his drawing, design and painting classes, who are submitting art work for the annual fall exhibit.

"Our students have done a great job with their art assignments and I know the public will enjoy seeing the exhibit," said Brady.

Participating in the art show and their respective hometowns are Dale Alberts, Bailey; Brittany Bobo and Amber Harbour, both of Union; Sara Davis, Demopolis, Ala.; Anahi Esqueda and Manny Esqueda, both of Carthage; Ken Frazier, Choctaw; Leslie Graham, Cody

November 19

Walters and Holly Webb, all of Forest; D. J. Harris, Sumrall; John Hausley, Brittany Morrison and Randy Robinson, all of Newton; Corbin Hurst, Hickory; Lauren Jahn, Morton; Stephanie Lunsford, Collinsville; Anna Peeples, Louisville; and Jackie Pionan, Labuan, Philippines.

For more information, contact the ECCC Fine Arts Department, 601-635-2111 or call toll free, 877-462-3222, ext. 228.

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WEEK OF November 9, 2009

ALUMNI OBSERVED GOLDEN ANNIVERSARY

SUBMITTED PHOTO

Reunited for their 50th class reunion are the above East Central Community College alumni who received special recognition during homecoming activities held October 3 on the Decatur campus. Class members received Golden Anniversary diplomas from ECCC President Dr. Phil A. Sutphin during a ceremony in the Vickers Fine Arts Center auditorium. Pictured are (front row, from left) Mack Shelton of Pearl, Corrine Cross Neal of Huntington Beach, Calif.; Sara McGee Moreau of Decatur, Fred Allen Barfoot of Philadelphia, Lois Blount Cooper of Decatur, Linda Alderman Horn of Huntsville, Ala.; Ann Sigrest Williams of Columbia, Louise Fortenberry Johnston of Lake and Phyllis Vowell Robinson of Philadelphia; (second row, from left) Carl Hollingsworth of Decatur, Mary Sue Cook Smith of Irving, Texas; Alice Faye Skinner of Hattiesburg, Harlon Crimm of Marietta, Ga.; Alfred Bailey of Decatur, Willard May of Petal, Danna McMillin Bennett of Sherman, Texas; and Linda Hudson and Keith Hudson, both of Louisville; and (back row, from left) Perry Willis Smith of Byram, Henry Moreau of Decatur, Larry Tucker of Jackson, Shelby Lowery of New Albany, Johnny Smith of Monticello, Ga.; James Chester Sawyer of Morton, James Johnston of Lake, Sydney Nester of Mendenhall, Tommy Leach of Union, Lyndolph White of Vicksburg and Bubba Hudspeth of Louisville.

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WEEK OF November 9, 2009

Clark Teams Honored at ECCC

The 1964 to 1976 East Central Community College basketball teams coached by Joe Clark were among special groups honored during homecoming activities held October 3 on the Decatur campus. Former team members include (front row, from left) Art Fulton and Mac Hall, both of Philadelphia; Herman Coats of Batesville, Keith Branning of Ridgeland, Dennis Walton of Gulfport, Clark, Rodney Tadlock of Decatur, Sammy Pace of Moselle, and Sam Nowell of Philadelphia; and (back row) Joe Fondren of Abbeville, Danny Gressett of Decatur, Allen Harrison and Ronnie Westbrook, both of Little Rock; V.L. Mott and Keith Everett, both of Meridian; Sid Williams of Philadelphia, Bill Wheeler of Columbus, Mike Cosgrove of Lawrence, Gary Gordon of Bay Springs, and Larry Gressett of Conehatta. Not pictured but also attending the reunion are Polan Willis of Decatur, Ala.; Butch Cox of Gonzales, La.; and Haywood Reeves of Forest.

APPEARED IN:

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SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

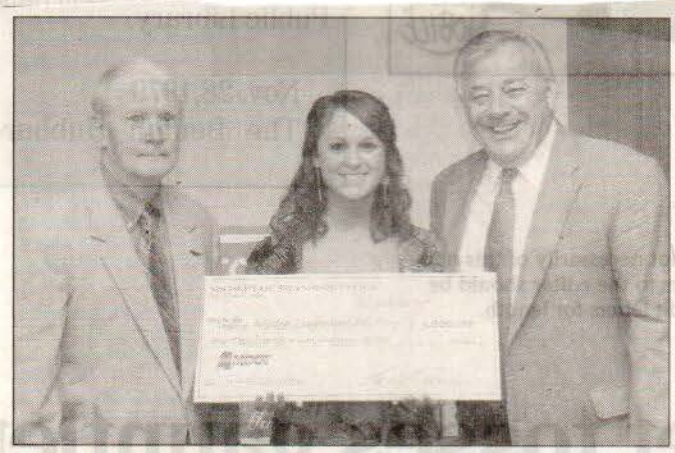
SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF November 16, 2009

Jacob Scoggin (front row, far right), a 2009 Newton High School graduate and Tyler McNeil (back row, far right), a Philadelphia High grad, are the President and Vice President, respectively of the newly reestablished Sigma Pi fraternity on the University of Mississippi campus. Jess Luke (front, 4th from left) an '08 Newton County High graduate is serving as the group's Treasurer. Once the new frat's charter requirements have been met, all three will be listed as founding Fathers.



RECEIVES SCHOLARSHIP- Kristen Leighanne Pillsbury, the daughter of Mississippi Department of Transportation (MDOT) District Office employee Annette Pillsbury, recently received a $1,500 scholarship award from MDOT and SASHTO—the Southeastern Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials. Kristen attends East Central Community College. Shown here presenting the award are MDOT Central District Commissioner Dick Hall (left) and Larry L. "Butch" Brown, MDOT's executive director.

APPEARED IN:

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NEWTON COUNTY APPEAL ✓ X2

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

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WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

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WEEK OF December 7, 2009

ECCC president leads national association

SPECIAL TO THE TIMES

Dr. Phil A. Sutphin

Dr. Phil A. Sutphin, president of East Central Community College in Decatur, recently began his tenure as Chairman of the Board of the Rural Community College Alliance, a national association whose emphasis is on "improving the educational and economic prospects for rural America," according to the RCCA Web site.

Dr. Sutphin assumed the chairman's role at the 2009 RCCA Conference held in Bretton Woods, NH, October 13-15. He served two terms as vice chair prior to taking over the chairmanship. One of his duties as vice chairman included planning and hosting the 2008 conference, which was held in Biloxi.

The ECCC leader said RCCA's goal this year "is promoting rural community colleges as the best local institution to promote rural development in the United States and Canada."

RCCA is an affiliate council of the American Association of Community Colleges (AACC) to promote the rural agenda.

Dr. Sutphin said RCCA began as a "sustainability effort" from the Rural Community College Initiative (RCCI) grant ECCC participated in during the early 2000s to promote rural economic development.

Dr. Sutphin has served as ECCC president since 2000. He previously served the College as dean of instruction and dean of students.

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WEEK OF 12-14-09

Thrash Auditorium Dedicated at ECCC..... Members of the Thomas W. Thrash family are shown next to his portrait, prominently displayed in thre newly-named Thrash Auditorium on the East Central Community College campus in Decatur. The auditorium was dedicated in memory of the College's longtime social science instructor and division chairman during a ceremony held Sunday, Dec. 13. Thrash, who at age 62 lost his battle to cancer on Sept. 6, 2002, received numerous honors while serving on the ECCC faculty from 1962 to 2002. Information regarding his distinguished career is included on an engraved plaque, also displayed. From left are: Hob, Melissa (Thrash) and Robert Carleton, all of Union; Mrs. Thomas W. (Jeanette) Thrash, Decatur; Mev (Thrash) Kinght, Logan Knight, Kelsi and Robbie Knight of Meridian. Participating in the dedication ceremony were Dr. Phil A. Sutphin, ECCC president; Dr. Richard C. Ethridge, retired social science division chair and instructor; Ovid S. Vickers, retired humanities and fine arts division chair and instructor; the Rev. Bruce L. Taylor, Decatur United Methodist Church; and the Rev. Henry B. Moreau, ECCC Class of 1959. Jeanette Thrash provided a response from the family and presented a check to Dr. Sutphin for the annual Thomas W. Thrash Memorial Scholarship. (EC Photo)

APPEARED IN:

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WEEK OF 12-14-09

Stovall Memorial Scholarship established at ECCC

SPECIAL TO THE TIMES

A scholarship in memory of Jacob Stovall of Philadelphia has been established at East Central Community College in Decatur. Toni and Don Stovall initiated the scholarship in honor of their son who lost his battle with cancer on February 28, 2009.

According to the scholarship description, Jacob "was a fun-loving sophomore at Philadelphia High School…who loved sports, his wonderful nurses during his illness and mathematics. His favorite sports were football, basketball and golf."

Due to his interests, funding from the scholarship may be used for an athletic scholarship in football or basketball; a scholarship for a business major; or scholarship for a nursing major.

Candidates for the Jacob Stovall Memorial Scholarship must be a graduate of Philadelphia High School, have at least a 3.0 grade point average based on a 4.0 scale, be enrolled as a traditional or non-traditional full-time student and demonstrate financial need.

The annual selection of the scholarship will be made by the ECCC Scholarship Committee. The scholarship provides $500 per year ($250 per semester) for the first two semesters of college.

For more information, contact ECCC Student Services at (601) 635-2111 or call toll free, (877) 462-3222, ext. 205. The e-mail address is jkillens@eccc.edu.

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WEEK OF 12-14-09

EXCELLENCE IN EDUCATION

• DECATUR – **Shevondra Benn-Clayton** of Meridian is a recent addition to the Practical Nursing faculty at East Central Community College.

Prior to joining the ECCC staff, Benn-Clayton served as a unit supervisor at Golden Living Center in Meridian. She previously held the same position at Poplar Springs Nursing Home, also located in Meridian. Her experience also includes serving as an RN Charge/Staff Nurse at Rush Foundation Hospital in Meridian. In all, she has six years of professional healthcare experience.

She was salutatorian of her 1999 graduating class at Kemper County High School and received an associate in arts/pre-nursing degree in 2001 from East Mississippi Community College in Scooba.

While attending EMCC, Benn-Clayton was tapped for membership in Phi Theta Kappa, the international honor society for two-year colleges, and was named to Who's Who Among Students in American Junior Colleges.

She continued her education by receiving a bachelor's degree in nursing education from the University of Southern Mississippi in 2003. She plans to attend graduate school at the University of Southern Mississippi-Meridian Campus in January 2010 to start working on a master's degree in nursing education.

She is married to Antonio Clayton of Lauderdale.Benn-Clayton is a member of the Oak Grove M.B. Church in Preston, where she serves as adult choir director and is active in various church organizations and functions.

Clayton

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WEEK OF 12-21-09

CONTRIBUTION FOR ECCC PROJECT

SUBMITTED PHOTO

Charlotte Brackeen (left) of Union is shown presenting a check to Dr. Phil A. Sutphin, president of East Central Community College, with proceeds designated for the Founders' Gym Renovation Fund. Fundraising efforts are under way to restore the facility, recognized as one of the oldest buildings on the Decatur campus and the oldest standing brick gymnasium in East Mississippi. Brackeen's late husband, Denver, was an All-American basketball player for the Warriors and was among the many college and high school athletes to play in the facility, which hosted hundreds of basketball games from 1930 to 1970, including local, regional and state championships for both high school and college level teams. Founders' Gym was also used for other activities, including the traditional May Day program, proms, dances, plays, musicals, graduations and many community events. Dr. Sutphin said the renovation project includes four phases at an estimated cost of $8 million. He said the College is also pursuing grant money to assist with the renovation. Contributions may be made to the ECCC Foundation, Inc., P.O. Box 129, Decatur, MS 39327. For more information contact Stacey Hollingsworth, executive director, Foundation and Alumni Relations, 601-635-2111 or call toll free, 877-462-3222, ext. 327. Her e-mail address is sholling@eccc.edu.

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WEEK OF 12-21-09

Thrash

SPECIAL TO THE TIMES

Members of the Thomas W. Thrash family stand below lettering designating the new name of the Newton Hall auditorium on the East Central Community College campus in Decatur. The auditorium was dedicated in memory of the College's longtime social science instructor and division chairman during a ceremony held Sunday, Dec. 13, 2009. Thrash, who at age 62 lost his battle to cancer on Sept. 6, 2002, received numerous honors while serving on the ECCC faculty from 1962 to 2002. Information regarding his distinguished career is included on an engraved plaque, also shown. From left are Robbie and Mev (Thrash) Knight and daughter Kelsi, all of Meridian; Mrs. Thomas W. (Jeanette) Thrash, Decatur; Logan Knight, Meridian; and Hob, Melissa (Thrash) and Robert Carleton, all of Union. Family members are also shown next to a portrait of Tommy Thrash, prominently displayed in Thrash Auditorium. Participating in the dedication ceremony were Dr. Phil A. Sutphin, ECCC president; Dr. Richard C. Ethridge, retired social science division chair and instructor; Ovid S. Vickers, retired humanities and fine arts division chair and instructor; the Rev. Bruce L. Taylor, Decatur United Methodist Church; and the Rev. Henry B. Moreau, ECCC Class of 1959. Jeanette Thrash provided a response from the family and presented a check to Dr. Sutphin for the annual Thomas W. Thrash Memorial Scholarship.

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Week of 12-21-09

Continued from previous page

Auditorium dedicated at ECCC

WEEK OF 12-28-09

Planning renovation of ECCC Founders' gym

SPECIAL TO THE TIMES

Looking over plans to renovate East Central Community College's Founders' Gym are Alumni Association board member and project contributor Ann Burkes (left) of Decatur and ECCC President Dr. Phil A. Sutphin, who are shown in front of the historic structure. A fundraising drive is currently under way to renovate the facility, recognized as one of the oldest buildings on the Decatur campus and the oldest standing brick gymnasium in east Mississippi. From 1930 to 1970, Founders' Gym played host to hundreds of basketball games including local, regional and state championships for both high school and college level teams. The gym was also used for May Day programs, proms, dances, plays, musicals, graduations and many community events. Founders' Gym is named in honor of Dr. Benjamin Franklin "Frank" Hunter, Burkes' grandfather; James "Jim" McDonald Thames and others instrumental in establishing the college. Dr. Sutphin said the renovation project includes four phases at an estimated cost of $8 million. He said the College is also pursuing grant money to assist with the renovation. Contributions may be made to the ECCC Foundation Inc., P.O. Box 129, Decatur, MS 39327. For more information contact Stacey Hollingsworth, executive director, Foundation and Alumni Relations, (601) 635-2111 or call toll free, (877) 462-3222, ext. 327.

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WEEK OF 12-28-09

ECCC musical casts honored

SUBMITTED PHOTO

Casts of four musicals directed by former East Central Community College Speech andTheater Instructor Bruce Peterson were among special groups honored during Homecoming activities held October 3 on the Decatur campus. The reunion group included cast members from 1974 Camelot, 1979 Mame, 1982 Carousel and 1985 Oklahoma. Those attending reunion activities include (first row, from left) Brenda Carson of Decatur, Martha Blanton of Carthage, Terri Donald of Philadelphia, Joan Grimes of Union, Flo Harkins Henley of Starkville, Julie Goodwin Rowzee of Hickory and Cheryl Gibbon DuBose of Collierville, Tenn.; (second row, from left) Tom Carson of Decatur, Ken Hackman of Madison, Johnny Walker of Louisville, Louis Crenshaw of Newton, Gail Fondren of Oxford, Tonia Coker of Decatur, Tammie Covington Addy of Decatur and Mike Boggan of Muscle Shoals, Ala.; and (back row, from left) Greg Henley and Geedie Simmons, both of Starkville; Scotty Goldman of Prattville, Ala.; Mark Walker of Brandon, Cy Williams of Fulton, Leah Livingston of Starkville, Victor Coker of Decatur and Tina Hollingsworth of Lake.

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WEEK OF 12-28-09

ECCC honors Kemp

Harry Kemp (center) of Louisville was recently honored for his seven years of service on the East Central Community College Board of Trustees. Kemp served on the Board while he was Superintendent of the Louisville Municipal School District. He retired from education on June 30, 2009, after 40 years of service. Kemp received a plaque of appreciation for his service to the College from ECCC President Dr. Phil A. Sutphin (left) and Board of Trustees Chairman Prentice Copeland at the December 16, 2009, luncheon/meeting held on the Decatur campus.

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SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

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WEEK OF 1-12-09

Countdown to Signing Day

Juco Top 25

Plenty to prove

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WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

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CLARION-LEDGER ✓

1-12-09

Mullen, Dogs show faith in overlooked Langston

By Rod Walker
rwalker@clarionledger.com

Mississippi State

Maurice Langston thought he was an SEC-caliber player coming out of Northeast Lauderdale High School in 2006.

The problem was, he just couldn't convince anybody else that he was.

But almost three years later — and following a stellar career at East Central Community College — Langston has landed in the conference where he thought he should have been all along.

The versatile defensive back/receiver, who enrolled at Mississippi State this month after signing with the Bulldogs in January, shouldn't be hard to spot on the field this fall.

If you happen to overlook his 5-foot-11, 180-pound frame sporting jersey No. 1, just look for the guy wearing the chip on his shoulder.

"I feel like I have a lot to prove," said Langston, No. 3 on *The Clarion-Ledger*'s Top 25 Junior College Recruits list. "I think I got overlooked coming out of high school and I want to get back at those guys that looked over me and show them that I can play."

Langston, who made a 23 on his ACT and easily met the NCAA's academic requirements coming out of Northeast Lauderdale, received just one scholarship offer. So he accepted it, signing with Sun Belt Conference member Arkansas State.

But he only stayed one semester.

"It was a combination of things," said Langston about his decision to transfer to East Central. "I really didn't like Arkansas State that much because the

See LANGSTON, 4C

Maurice Langston, snubbed by most D-I recruiters out of high school, will get his chance to play in SEC at Mississippi State.

Inside Sports

■ JSU: No run on junior college players, 4C
■ Top 25 juco recruits list, 4C

1-12-09

Mo Numbers: Another look at Maurice Langston

1
Scholarship offers (Arkansas State) Langston received out of high school.

69
Points Langston (33) and teammate Romero Osby (36) combined for in an epic basketball overtime playoff loss (102-97) to Lanier.

34
TDs Langston accounted for during his senior season, when he led NE Lauderdale to its first winning season since 1990.

64
Yards completion of Langston's only pass attempt his sophomore year at East Central. (It went for a touchdown.)

1,602
All-purpose yards for Langston this past season at East Central.

Ole Miss

WEEK OF 2-2-09

National Signing Day: East Central Community College

ECCC PHOTO

MOVING ON

Five East Central Community College players signed letters-of-intent to play at four-year colleges. From left are Cedric Hall (North Alabama), former Leake Academy standout Josh Lewis (West Alabama), Josh Lewis (Jacksonville State) and Clint Coleman (Southeastern Louisiana).

APPEARED IN:

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2-2-09

Signed and sealed

ECCC has five players sign Wednesday

By Chris Brennaman
assistant sports editor

The gem of East Central Community College's outgoing sophomore signing class was signed, sealed and delivered well before National Signing Day, but the Warriors still had a busy day Wednesday.

Former Northeast Lauderdale standout Maurice Langston signed a national letter of intent on the first day of the junior college early signing period in December and transferred to Mississippi State in January.

All told, 14 former Warriors are headed to four-year schools after five more signed Wednesday.

Justin Moore, a former Leake Academy Rebel, will be joining Bobby Wallace's squad at West Alabama next year. Moore is a 6-foot-3, 275-pound offensive lineman.

UWA has also picked up former Warrior wide receiver Kendrick May, who was on the MACJC North Division All-Star team after catching 28 balls for 404 yards and a score. He also returned a kickoff for a touchdown.

Lamar Truman, also from Northeast Lauderdale, is currently at Tabor College in Hillsboro, Kan. after transferring at the beginning of the year. The wide receiver won the Warriors' "Mr. Clutch" award in 2008.

Quitman's Randy Carter signed with Tarleton State University in Stephenville, Texas. TSU, a Division II school, is the winningest program in the Lone Star Conference since 2000.

Carter tallied 68 solo tackles and 28 assists, while snaring one interception.

Langston, who was selected to the All-Region 23 first team as a wide receiver and return specialist. The speedster totaled more than 1,600 all-purpose yards and accounted for 20 touchdowns. He completed his only pass attempt of 2008 for a 64-yard touchdown.

Other East Central players that have signed with four-year schools:

- Dustin Alley, WR — Valdosta State
- Clint Coleman, DB — Southeastern Louisiana
- Jasen Fairley, DT — Kentucky Wesleyan College
- Cedric Hall, DE — North Alabama
- Kiendre Jones, OL — Miles College
- Josh Lewis, DE — Jacksonville State
- Anthony McDonald, LB — North Carolina-Pembroke
- Donovan Tate, WR — Nicholls State
- Josh Williams, OL — Kentucky Wesleyan College

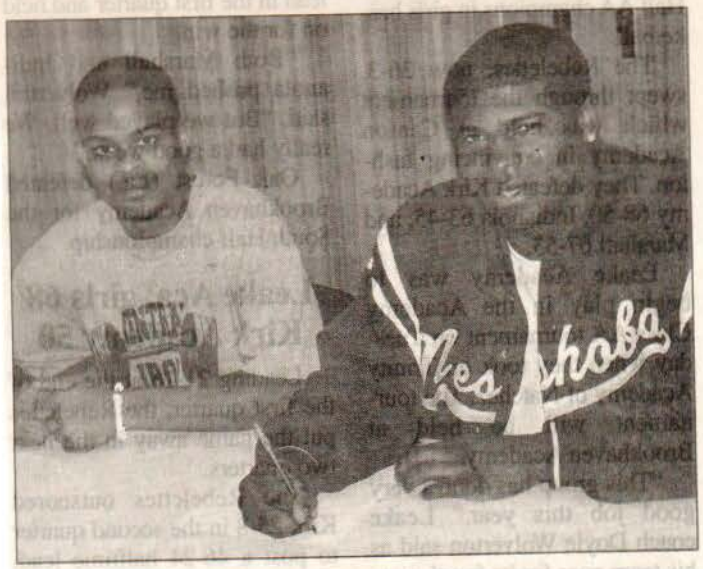
ECCC PHOTO

BIG SIGNING

Also signing at East Central Community College on Wednesday was Kieandre Jones (Miles College). He is joined by ECCC offensive line coach Kyle Watson (left).

WEEK OF 2-16-09

Neshoba Central seniors continuing careers at EC



Donnie Tabb, right, a senior at Neshoba Central recently signed with East Central Community College. He received a two-year scholarship to play football and baseball. He is shown with classmate Terrence Hill.

Neshoba Central senior Brandon Fedrick recently signed with East Central Community College. Fedrick received a two-year scholarship to play football. He is shown with his parents Terry and Betty Fedrick.

APPEARED

CARTHAGI HOBA DEMOCRAT ✓✓

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SPIRIT OF MORTON

WEEK OF 2-16-09

Winston County standouts sign ECCC, MSU

From staff reports

Three Winston County standouts signed with East Central Community College and one Louisville High School standout signed with Mississippi State University.

Aries Crosby at defensive end at Nanih Waiya signed with ECCC. He will be joined by Malcolm Kincade, defensive end of Louisville and Randy Hornsberger defensive lineman of Louisville.

Mississippi State signed Louisville High School standout Dennis Thames, who played a series of positions for the Wildcats at 5-11, 185 pounds. Thames was considered the No. 20 athlete in the country by national recruiting web site Rivals.com . He was also named first-team, all-state in the defensive backfield by the Jackson Clarion-Ledger newspaper and Ranked No. 9 on the Clarion-Ledger's list of the 10 most wanted high school prospects in the state of Mississippi. A star on both sides of the football, he accounted for 1,600 yards on offense and 19 touchdowns.

Three student athletes from Louisville High School recently signed letters of intent to play football at local colleges and universities. From left to right: Randy Hornesbuger, East Central Community College; Malcolm Kincaid, East Central Community College; and Dennis Thames, Mississippi State University. Looking on is Louisville High School's head football coach, Brad Peterson.

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WEEK OF 2-9-09

ECCC PHOTO

ECCC FOOTBALL PLAYERS CONTINUING CAREERS

Signing letters-of-intent on National Signing Day Wednesday, Feb. 4 were the above members of the 2008 East Central Community College football team. Continuing their athletic careers on the university or four-year college level are (from left) Cedric Hall, a 6-5, 260-pound defensive end from Carthage, who signed with the University of North Alabama; Justin Moore, a 6-3, 275-pound offensive lineman from Leake Academy, who will join the University of West Alabama squad; Josh Lewis, a 6-5, 245-pound defensive end from Tuscaloosa (Ala.) County, who plans to attend Jacksonville State (Ala.); and Clint Coleman, a 6-2, 195-pound defensive back from Louisville, who inked with Southeastern Louisiana. Not pictured is Kiendre Jones, a 6-4, 340-pound offensive lineman from Hillcrest High School in Tuscaloosa, who signed with Miles College in Birmingham.

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WEEK OF June 29, 2009

ECCC announces foo

Five home games, including a homecoming match-up set for Saturday, Oct. 3, are included in East Central Community College's 2009 football schedule.

The Warriors, who are led by second-year head coach Steve Cheatham, begin the new campaign by hosting non-division opponent Coahoma Community College on Thursday, Aug. 27. Kickoff is planned for 6:30 p.m. at Bailey Stadium on the Decatur campus.

East Central travels to Holmes Community College – another MACJC North Division member – the following Thursday (Sept. 3) for a 7 p.m. start on the Goodman campus.

The Warriors begin MACJC South Division action as guests of Hinds Community College on Thursday, Sept.10. Kickoff is set for 6:30 p.m. on the Raymond campus.

East Central continues league play by hosting Jones County Junior College Thursday, Sept. 17 and traveling to Southwest Mississippi Community College Thursday, Sept. 24. A 6:30 p.m. kickoff is slated for both contests.

The Warriors take a break from division action to entertain non-division foe Northeast Mississippi Community College in the annual homecoming contest on Saturday, Oct. 3. Kickoff is set for 2:30 p.m. at Bailey Stadium.

EC returns to division competition Thursday, Oct. 8, by hosting Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College at 6:30 p.m.

The Warriors journey to Wesson Thursday, Oct. 15 to challenge Copiah-Lincoln Community College with kickoff set for 7 p.m.

East Central completes regular season action with a home contest scheduled Thursday, Oct. 22 with Pearl River Community College. Kickoff is slated for 6:30 p.m. at Bailey Stadium.

ECCC Warriors
2009 Football Schedule

Aug. 27 – Coahoma
Sept. 3 – at Holmes
Sept. 10 – at Hinds
Sept. 17 – Jones
Sept. 24 – at Southwest
Oct. 3 – Northeast (HC)
Oct. 8 – Gulf Coast
Oct. 15 – at Co Lin
Oct. 22 – Pearl River

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____
SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____
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MERIDIAN STAR _____

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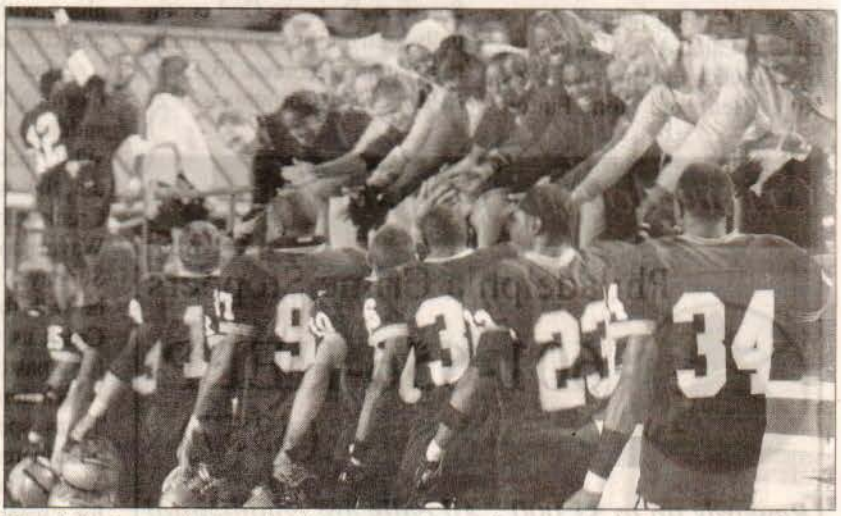
NEWTON COUNTY APPEAL _____
WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____
CLARION-LEDGER _____

June 29, 2009

tball schedule



The Warriors, who are led by second-year head coach Steve Cheatham, begin the new campaign by hosting non-division opponent Coahoma Community College on Thursday, Aug. 27.

WEEK OF _____

ECCC Warriors Seek To Avenge 2008 Loss to Coahoma

A little revenge will be on the minds of the East Central Community Warriors who host Coahoma Community College Thursday night in Decatur.

"We definitely feel it's payback time," said interim Warrior head coach Brian Anderson, who also serves offensive coordinator. "Our guys know we should have won last year's game and are really focused on starting the season on a positive note."

ECCC fell 47-31 to the Tigers in last year's season-opening contest in Clarksdale. Coahoma, which competes in the MACJC North Division, finished the year at 4-4 overall and 3-3 in league play. Freeman Horton, a former Warrior assistant, begins his ninth year as head coach.

After a sluggish start, East Central won three of its last four games to finish 4-5 overall and 3-3 in the MACJC South Division.

Kickoff for the ECCC/Coahoma non-division battle is set for 6:30 p.m. at Bailey Stadium.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

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MERIDIAN STAR _____

ECCC Names Homecoming Honorees for 2009

Homecoming honorees for 2009 were recently announced at East Central Community College and will be among special groups recognized at the annual celebration scheduled Saturday, Oct. 3 on the Decatur campus.

Mary Rosalyn Rogers Folks (Class of 1964) of Picayune and Jack H. Winstead (Class of 1956) of Lawrence were named Alumna and Alumnus of the Year, respectively, and Donald Acton (Class of 1953) of Knoxville, TN and Wanda Blackwell McPhail (Class of 1971) of Collinsville are slated for induction into the College's Athletic Hall of Fame, according to Stacey Hollingsworth, executive director for foundation and alumni relations.

Hollingsworth said various alumni groups will also be recognized, including members of basketball teams coached by Joe Clark (1964-1976) and Marty Cooper (1991-1998); and cast members of designated musicals directed by Bruce Peterson (Camelot, 1974; Mame, 1979; Carousel, 1982; and Oklahoma, 1985).

Reunion meetings are scheduled for the Class of 1949 and the combined Classes of 1957, 1958 and 1959, which meet each year. Fiftieth anniversary diplomas will be presented to the 1959 Class by ECCC President Dr. Phil A. Sutphin during a ceremony at 10:30 a.m. in the Vickers Fine Arts Center.

The day's activities begin with a 5K Run/Walk scheduled at 7:30 a.m. at the North Campus Pavilion.

Registration for homecoming activities begins at 9 a.m. on the East Mall Patio near Mabry Memorial Cafeteria.

Following registration, alumni are encouraged to visit the Memorabilia Room in Burton Library, which will be open from 9 to 11 a.m.

Hollingsworth said a new activity added to homecoming festivities includes tailgating, music and other events scheduled from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. on the band practice field.

The annual Warrior Club meeting is set for 11 a.m. in the Board Room, located in the Vincent Administration Building. All supporters of Warrior athletics are encouraged to attend the meeting.

The Alumni Luncheon, during which the honorees receive special recognition, begins at noon in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria.

Honorees will also be recognized at 2 p.m. on the football field, prior to the Warriors' homecoming battle at 2:30 p.m. with Northeast Mississippi Community College.

For more information contact Stacey Hollingsworth, 601-635-2111 or call toll free, 877-462-3222, ext. 327. Her e-mail address is sholling@eccc.edu.

July 6, 2009

Cheatham resig

Steve Cheatham has resigned as head football coach at East Central Community College in Decatur, announced ECCC President Dr. Phil A. Sutphin. Cheatham's resignation is effective July 31, 2009.

Cheatham, who took over the Warrior program following the 2007 campaign, underwent surgery for prostate cancer on June 22. He cited health concerns as a reason for his resignation.

"I just don't think I can give East Central and the young men what they need going into the upcoming season," said the 52-year-old Philadelphia native when announcing his resignation in a Tuesday afternoon meeting with Dr. Sutphin and Athletic Director Chris Harris. "Although the surgery was termed successful, there's still a six-week period where I'm limited to what I can do. I just don't have the strength I need to do the job."

Cheatham said having cancer also changed his priorities. He wants to spend more time with his family and is looking forward to being a grandfather.

"My daughter Lindsey and her husband (Bo Burkes) are expecting their first child in February. Brenda and I want to be able to spend as much time as possible with our new grandchild," he stated.

Cheatham, who plans to retire from the state system following 28 years of service, will continue coaching but on

Continued from previous page

WEEK OF July 6, 2009

ns as EC football coach

a different level. He will serve as a physical education instructor for K-8 grades at Conehatta Elementary School, a division of the Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians, beginning in August.

Dr. Sutphin, who reluctantly accepted Cheatham's resignation, said East Central "will definitely miss Coach Cheatham . . . he added tremendously to the football program."

Prior to being named Warrior head football coach, Cheatham served as defensive coordinator for former head coach Terry Underwood during the 2007 campaign. He also served as a Warrior assistant during the 2001-03 seasons.

A 31-year coaching veteran, Cheatham is a former head football coach at Neshoba Central and Philadelphia high schools. He owns a 46-20 record during his six years as a high school head coach. He led East Central to a 4-5 record in the 2008 season, capped off by a stunning 44-38 double-overtime win over the playoff-bound Pearl River Community College Wildcats.

Steve Cheatham

Cheatham's coaching experience also includes stints as an assistant at Dothan (Ala.) and Neshoba Central high schools, and as a graduate assistant at Clemson University. In addition, Cheatham served two season as director of football operations at the University of Mississippi under Rebel head coach David Cutcliff.

A 1974 graduate of Neshoba Central High School, Cheatham attended East Central from 1974-76 and received a bachelor's degree in health, physical education and recreation from Mississippi State University in 1978. He earned a master's degree in secondary guidance and counseling from Clemson University in 1995.

Dr. Sutphin said the search "is underway" for Cheatham's successor.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT ✓

NEWTON COUNTY APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

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July 13, 2009

APPEARED IN:
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Anderson named interim EC head coac

Brian Anderson has been named interim head football coach at East Central Community College in Decatur, announced Dr. Phil A. Sutphin, College president.

"We are pleased to have someone on staff such as Coach Anderson to assume the interim position," said Dr. Sutphin. "His background will serve him and the team well over the next several months."

Anderson, 36, was named to the post less than a week following the resignation of Steve Cheatham, who stepped down due mainly to health reasons.

Cheatham, who led the Warrior program after one year and is a former assistant, underwent successful surgery for prostate cancer on June 22 but the longtime coach said he did not think he "could give East Central and the young men what is needed" going into the upcoming season.

Brian Anderson

The 52-year-old Cheatham, will continue to coach but on a different level. He will serve as physical education instructor for grades K-8 at Conehatta Elementary School, a division of the Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians.

Anderson, who served the past year as Cheatham's offensive coordinator and will continue in that role along with duties as head coach, said he is ready for the challenge, although he did not expect the head coaching position so soon.

"It's a great opportunity, it's a privilege and it's an honor to serve as head football coach at East Central Community College," Anderson said after addressing team members in a Sunday night meeting in the Brackeen-Wood Physical Education Building. "Being head coach is something I had in the back of my mind when I came here. The timing of the matter was a little off from what I thought it would be – I thought it would be several years – but at the same time it's something that I am ready for, something that I am eager for as well as my family. I'm just very excited and ready to get started."

Anderson is a former high school head football coach, leading Grenada to a 5-6 record in 2007 after successfully guiding Philadelphia to a 27-8 mark from 2004 through the 2006 seasons. His offenses were rated among the best in the state at both schools. He is also former assistant at Meridian, Philadelphia and Neshoba Central high schools.

He was the starting center at Mississippi State University on the 1992-95 squads, which participated in three bowl games. Anderson earned All-Southeastern Conference hono junior and senior campaigns and the All-SEC Academic Team fo seasons. In addition, he was pre the CommuniGroup Offensive man of the Year award a record times. He was selected for the Gray All-Star Classic, the East Shrine Game, Senior Bowl ar NFL Combine in 1996.Anderso is also a former football stand Prattville, Ala., High School, i ried to the former LeaAnn Al Philadelphia. They have two Brady and Eli.

Assisting Anderson will be ing staff members James Mille Watson, Fredrick Lyons and Pouncey.

ECCC names Anderson interim head coach

from school reports

DECATUR — Brian Anderson has been named interim head football coach at East Central Community College in Decatur, announced Dr. Phil A. Sutphin, college president.

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Anderson

Anderson, 36, was named to the post less than a week following the resignation of Steve Cheatham, who stepped down due mainly to health reasons.

Cheatham, who led the Warrior program for one year and is a former assistant, underwent successful surgery for prostate cancer on June 22 but the longtime coach said he did not think he "could give East Central and the young men what is needed" going into the upcoming season.

The 52-year-old Cheatham, who has 28 years coaching experience in the state system and 31 years overall, will continue to coach but on a different level. He will serve as physical education instructor for grades K-8 at Conehatta Elementary School, a division of the Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians.

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He was the starting center at Mississippi State University on the 1992-95 squads, which participated in three bowl games. Anderson earned All-Southeastern Conference honors his junior and senior campaigns and made the All-SEC Academic Team for three seasons. In addition, he was presented the Communi-Group Offensive Lineman of the Year award a record three times. He was selected for the Blue-Gray All-Star Classic, the East-West Shrine Game, Senior Bowl and the NFL Combine in 1996.

Anderson, who is also a former football standout at Prattville, Ala., High School, is married to the former LeaAnn Allen of Philadelphia. They have two sons, Brady and Eli.

In analyzing this year's East Central squad, Anderson said he is "very optimistic" that the Warriors can achieve their first winning season since 2001. He noted last season's strong finish and an impressive recruiting class as reasons for his optimism.

"We've got to have a carryover from last season," Anderson said, referring to the Warriors' impressive finish by winning two of their last three games against very formidable opponents.

"The last three games of the season, I thought we were as good as anybody. We played an outstanding Gulf Coast team (eventual state champs) to the wire (before falling 38-35), beat a good Co-Lin squad that previously beat Gulf Coast (37-31 in OT), then we beat a top-five ranked Pearl River team in double-overtime (44-38). So two of our last three wins were

See **ECCC**
Page B3

WEEK

in overtime and that showed character within our team and we've got several of those players back this season. So they know in the back of their minds they are capable of playing with anybody in the state."

East Central finished 2008 with a 4-5 overall record and 3-3 slate in the MACJC South Division.

Anderson said getting better players to come to EC was a top priority of coach Cheatham and staff members.

"We've gone out and recruited some players that have great motors....they play extremely hard and they play extremely fast," he noted. "We've recruited some guys with state championship experience and some who were members of teams that were ranked among the top in the nation. So we have recruited some guys that understand what it takes to be a winner....the price you have to pay in order to win."

Although pleased with the recruiting class, Anderson said "you never know" about how players develop until everyone reports to camp in August.

"We have a good group of kids on campus for second-semester summer school and voluntary workouts, "Anderson said. "And that's one of our goals to get a bigger group in during the summer, working out and staying in condition. We've addressed that issue and it's getting better, although it is not where we want it to be."

Approximately 50 team members arrived Sunday to begin classes and voluntary workouts. All players are scheduled to report to campus on Aug. 6 to start training camp.

The Warriors begin the 2009 campaign by battling non-division opponent Coahoma Community College on Aug. 27. Kickoff is set for 6:30 p.m. at Bailey Stadium on the Decatur campus.

Assisting Anderson will be returning staff members James Miller, Kyle Watson, Fredrick Lyons and Derek Pouncey.

Anderson will soon add another assistant coach to complete his staff.

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WEEK OF July 20, 2009

EC offers fence signs at Bailey Stadium

In an effort to help raise funds for the Warrior football program, East Central Community College is offering advertising space on the fence at Bailey Stadium.

For $500 per season, advertisers can display their messages on 4' x 8' signs, according to Brian Anderson, recently named interim head football coach.

"With an average attendance of 1,500 to 3,000 at EC home football games, advertisers can have their businesses recognized by more than 15,000 potential customers during the season," Anderson said. "This is obviously a great way for advertisers to promote their business while also helping support the Warrior football program."

In order for the signs to be ready for the first home game, all orders and checks must be received by Monday, Aug. 17.

For more information, contact coach Anderson, 601-635-2111 or call toll free, 877-462-3222, ext. 290.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON COUNTY APPEAL ✓

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF July 20, 2009

Anderson named ECCC interim head of football

Less than one week after the resignation of East Central Community College football head coach Steve Cheatham, Brian Anderson was named interim head, ECCC President Dr. Phil A. Sutphin recently announced.

"We are pleased to have someone on staff such as Coach Anderson to assume the interim position," said Dr. Sutphin. "His background will serve him and the team well over the next several months."

Anderson, 36, was named to the post after Cheaham's resignation, which was due mainly to health reasons.

Cheatham, who led the Warrior program after one year and is a former assistant, underwent successful surgery for prostate cancer on June 22 but the longtime coach said he did not think he "could give East Central and the young men what is needed" going into the upcoming season.

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"It's a great opportunity, it's a privilege and it's an honor to serve as head football coach at East Central Community College," Anderson said after addressing team members. "Being head coach is something I had in the back of my mind when I came here. The timing of the matter was a little off from what I thought it would be – I thought it would be several years – but at the same time it's something that I am ready for, something that I am eager for as well as my family. I'm just very excited and ready to get started."

Anderson is a former high school head football coach, leading Grenada to a 5-6 record in 2007 after successfully guiding Philadelphia to a 27-8 mark from 2004 through the 2006 seasons.

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"We've gone out and recruited some players that have great motors....they play extremely hard and they play extremely fast," he noted.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN ✓

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON COUNTY APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

+17, 2009

Anderson moves up to head man at ECCC

Warriors hope momentum from late 2008 carries over in '09

Interim head football coach Brian Anderson is hoping momentum is on the side of his East Central Community College Warriors, who finished the 2008 campaign by winning three of their last four contests, including a stunning 44-38 double-overtime shocker over the then No. 5-ranked and playoff-bound Pearl River Community College Wildcats in the season finale in Poplarville.

from school reports

East Central also posted wins over Northeast (38-7) and Co-Lin (35-28 in OT) during the season-ending stretch, and came within three points (38-35) of upending eventual state champion Gulf Coast.

Anderson, who begins his second year at East Central and will continue to serve as offensive coordinator, is counting on the Warriors to improve on last year's 4-5 overall mark and 3-3 slate in the MACJC South Division.

East Central will get its first test of 2009 by hosting Coahoma Community College on Thursday, Aug. 27. Kickoff is set for 6:30 p.m. on the Decatur campus.

"The foundation was laid last year and now it is time to build upon that foundation," said Anderson, who succeeds former head coach Steve Cheatham who resigned in July, citing health and family reasons. "I felt like we were one of the top two or three teams in the state toward the end of the season, and hopefully the momentum from the end of the season will carry into this year."

Brian Anderson

To be successful in 2009, Anderson said the Warriors must begin the season on a positive note.

"Last year we did not get off to a good start and I think our conditioning was a big factor in our loss (47-31) to Coahoma," he said. "That's why we have put so much emphasis on our summer workout program, which I think will pay big dividends during the season."

And if early preseason practices are an indication of what's to come, Anderson said Warrior fans will be pleased with this year's results.

"So far, so good" is how Anderson describes the first week of August drills, which includes a 22-practice schedule prior to the season opener. "We don't have any major injuries to report thus far. The players have responded well under some adverse conditions, as we are right in the middle of two-a-days. The players are competing well and working very hard."

Anderson said the "biggest" surprise during pre-season drills is the response from freshman players.

"Thus far, we have been pleasantly surprised with our freshmen," Anderson said, "even though we feel that the freshman class is one of the best in recent years. Going into the preseason workouts, we were very confident that we did a great job recruiting, not only in the district but out of district, in Tuscaloosa County (considered part of the ECCC district), and out of state. We feel that we have recruited the best players possible to help us win football games. Many of the players come from championship teams and know what it takes to be a winner."

However, Anderson noted the key to success will be the leadership provided by the 19 returning lettermen, beginning with returning quarterback Emmanuel Taylor, a 6-foot, 170-pound product of Early County High School in Blakely, Ga., one of 10 returnees from the offensive unit.

"Emmanuel is very talented and we are glad he is back this year," Anderson said of the first-team All-State selection in 2008. "He's not really a vocal leader per se, but

Continued on page 27...
See ECCC...

Anderson in Charge

Philadelphia High School	
2004	10-2
2005	12-1
2006	5-5
Grenada High School	
2007	5-6
Total	**32-14**

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WEEK OF August 17, 2009

ECCC...

Continued from page 27...

Anderson the main goal is simple: just win!

"Our goals are to win every game, but the first thing we need to do is have a winning season, make the playoffs and hopefully win a state championship," Anderson said.

"But before we can accomplish those goals, we've got to learn how to win. I think winning those two games in overtime last year taught our team how to win, so we are going into this season with the expectations of winning every game."

And what else can fans expect this season?

"Expect a team that will be well-disciplined, aggressive, exciting to watch on offense and defense and a team that will not fall victim to turnovers and penalties. We will also be consistent on special teams and will play hard from the first whistle to the last whistle," Anderson said.

Serving as Anderson's assistants and areas of responsibility are returning staff members James Miller, defensive coordinator; Kyle Watson, offensive line/special teams; Fred Lyons, defensive line; and Derek Pouncey, wide receivers.

New staff members are Keith Houston, defensive backs; and Randy Brunson, defensive ends.

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NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON COUNTY APPEAL ✓

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

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(Continued from previous page)

August 24, 2009

omentum carries into '09

PAULA MERRITT/THE MERIDIAN S R.

Above, East Central Community College defenders Ken Robinson (22), Zerrick Houston (21), Guy Holden (35) and Quadarius Wallace (15) gang tackle a Holmes Community College player last season. Holden is a former Newton County star and Wallace is a Union product. Left, East Central quarterback Emmanuel Taylor finds running room against Southwest Mississippi last year. Taylor was a first-team All-State selection as a freshman.

WEEK OF August 24, 2009

ECCC

Continued from page 18

Academy, will handle kicking and punting duties.

"Chad is an excellent punter and kicker....he can do both very well," Anderson said.

In analyzing the upcoming the season, Anderson the main goal is simple: just win!

"Our goals are to win every game, but the first thing we need to do is have a winning season, make the playoffs and hopefully win a state championship," Anderson said. "But before we can accomplish those goals, we've got to learn how to win. I think winning those two games in overtime last year taught our team how to win, so we are going into this season with the expectations of winning every game."

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ECCC starts football season Thursday

The East Central Community College Warriors kick off their 2009 football season Thursday night when they play host to Coahoma Community College.

Kickoff is set for 6:30 p.m.

This will be the first game for interim head coach Brian Anderson. Anderson was an assistant coach last season at ECCC and became head coach in July when Steve Cheatham resigned because of health con-

the scoring.

Willis rushed for 156 yards on 11 carries, all in the first half, to lead the Tornadoes. Triplett finished with 72 yards on four carries while Morgan rushed for 57 yards on three carries. Patrick had two catches for 110 yards. Georgio Grace caught one pass for three yards and returned a punt for 19 yards.

Julian Riddle had six tackles and three assists to lead the Tornado defense. Johnson had six tackles, two interceptions and two quarterback sacks. Kenan Williams had five tackles.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

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Warriors hope m

WEEK OF August 24, 2009

By Bubby Johnston
Special to The Star

Interim head football coach Brian Anderson is hoping momentum is on the side of his East Central Community College Warriors, who finished the 2008 campaign by winning three of their last four contests, including a stunning 44-38 double-overtime shocker against the then-No. 5 ranked and playoff-bound Pearl River Community College Wildcats in the season finale in Poplarville.

Anderson

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However, Anderson noted the key to success will be the leadership provided by the 19 returning lettermen, beginning with returning quarterback Emmanuel Taylor, a 6-foot, 170-pounder, one of 10 returnees from the offensive unit.

"Emmanuel is very talented and we are glad he is back this year," Anderson said of the first-team All-State selection in 2008. "He's not really a vocal leader per se but leads by getting the job done."

Taylor, the only freshman in the state to receive first-team All-State honors on offense, finished among the state's top passers by completing 118 of 209 attempts for 1,649 yards and 10 touchdowns. He had 10 interceptions. Taylor also compiled 642 rushing yards on 117 carries — a 5.5-yard per average — and scored six touchdowns.

Anderson said he hopes Taylor will again be effective in running the spread offense, which scored 269 points — a 29-point average — during the 2008 campaign.

In addition to Taylor, other top offensive returnees include wide receiver Antonio Hughes, running back Derrick Cade, offensive lineman Chuckie Curry of Newton and Jarred Flemming, a 6-5, 250-pound lineman. Anderson said the offensive line will be "anchored" by Flemming and Curry, both of whom are receiving attention from several Division I programs.

Other receivers expected to see action are Antonio Ricks and Radarius Owens of Quitman, who joined the squad at mid-year and participated in spring drills.

On the defensive side, Anderson said the secondary should be the strength.

"Right now we are two-deep and we're solid," Anderson said. "Our entire defense has also improved and has a lot more speed, particularly at linebacker.where we've got some guys very capable of making some big plays."

Top defensive returnees include C. J. Estelle, a 5-10,195-pound cornerback, Elijah Tanksley, a 6-3, 186-pound safety from Meridian High School, Ken Griffin, a 6-foot, 182-pound defensive back from Philadelphia; and Jeremy Dillon, a 5-11, 235-pound defensive end.

Receiving praise at linebacker are sophomores Guy Holden, a 5-11, 200-pound product of Newton County and Quadarius Wallace, a 5-11, 193-pounder from Union, and freshmen Octavious Gilbert and Javad Wiggins.

See WARRIORS on page 9

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August 24, 2009

Members of the 2009 Warrior football team at East Central Community College in Decatur and their respective high schools include (front row, from left) defensive back Ken Griffin (1) and wide receiver Tevin Houston (2), both of Philadelphia; wide receiver Antonio Ricks (3), Carthage; linebacker Guy Holden (4), Newton County; defensive back Demario Eichelberger (5), Louisville; quarterback Montrell Edwards (6), Mendenhall; defensive back Brandon Tarrio (7), Jim Hill; running back Derrick Cade (8), Tuscaloosa Central (Ala.); quarterback Emmanuel Taylor (9), Early County (Ga.); wide receivers Radarius Owens (10) Quitman and Antonio Hughes (11), Morton; defensive back C.J. Estelle (12), Childersburg (Ala.); defensive lineman Jeremy Dillon (13), Forrest County; wide receiver Duane Bilbro (14), Morton; linebacker Quadarius Wallace (15), Union; and wide receiver Fabian Johnson (16), Coahoma County; (second row, from left) wide receiver Walter Grayson (17), Tuscaloosa County (Ala.); defensive lineman Quincy Jeter (18), Hubbard (Chicago, Ill.); running back Dontice Sanders (19), Wetumpka (Ala.); defensive back Bobby Thigpen (21), Forest; linebacker Demarcus Bryant (22), Meridian; defensive backs Elijah Tanksley (23) and Preston Felder (24), both of Meridian; linebacker Jerrod Sewell (25), Tuscaloosa County (Ala.); running backs Jeremy Harvey (26) of Harrison Central, Mark Johnson (28) of Mendenhall and Rodrick Hawkins (30) of Union; defensive back Malcolm Chinn (32), Tuscaloosa County (Ala.); linebackers Chris Watson (34) of West Lauderdale and Javod Wiggins (35) of Grenada; defensive back Gabe Loper (39), Newton County; linebackers Kevin Cayetano (40) of Forest, and Jackie Leggett (42) of Meridian; punter/kicker Chad Mangum (43), Oak Hill Academy; and linebacker Jordan Vance (44), Trinity Episcopal; (third row, from left) defensive lineman Tracy Hill (45), Northeast Lauderdale; linebackers Rob Roberts (46) of Newton County Academy and Demarcus Lewis (47) of Quitman; offensive linemen Andrew Perkins (50) of Northwest Rankin and Josh Young (51) of Starkville; linebacker Octavious Gilbert (52), Prattville (Ala.); offensive linemen Lester Jackson (53) of Tuscaloosa Central (Ala.), Chucky Curry (54) of Newton, Kyle Donald (60) of Louisville and Damion Young (62) of Pelahatchie; defensive lineman Akeem Moore (64), Southside (Selma, Ala.); offensive linemen Cole Stanley (65) of Sumrall, Brandon Fedrick (66) of Neshoba Central, Jared Fleming (70) of Louisville and Alaric Keams (71) of Choctaw Central; defensive lineman Khalid Wilson (72), Wilson Academy (New Orleans, La.); and offensive lineman Jared Huggins (73), Gentry; (fourth row, from left) offensive linemen Fred Smith (74) of Newton County and Will McBeath (75) of Leake Academy; wide receivers Ronnie McMillan (80) of Tuscaloosa County (Ala.) and Octavious Wallace (81) of Union; running backs Clyde Tate (82) of Carthage and Rod Toole (84) of Newton County; coaches Derek Pouncey (wide receivers); James Miller (defensive coordinator); Fred Lyons (defensive line); Brian Anderson (head coach/offensive coordinator); Randy Brunson (defensive ends); Keith Houston (defensive backs); Kyle Watson (offensive line/special teams); and Derek Jones (athletic trainer, Rush Sports Medicine); defensive linemen John McDougle (90) of Newton County, Latavious Davis (94) of Early County (Blakely, Ga.), Jeremy Finley (97) of Meridian and Randy Hornesbuger (98) and Malcolm Kincade (99), both of Louisville. Not pictured is defensive lineman Grant Johnson (95) of Morton. The Warriors begin season action by hosting Coahoma Community College at 6:30 p.m. Thursday, August 27. (EC Photo)

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Scott County times

WEEK OF August 24, 2009

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ECCC PHOTO

August 24, 2009

(Continued from previous page)

Members of the 2009 Warrior football team at East Central Community College in Decatur and their respective high schools include (front row, from left) defensive back Ken Griffin (1) and wide receiver Tevin Houston (2), both of Philadelphia; wide receiver Antonio Ricks (3), Carthage; linebacker Guy Holden (4), Newton County; defensive back Demario Eichelberger (5), Louisville; quarterback Montrell Edwards (6), Mendenhall; defensive back Brandon Farrio (7), Jim Hill; running back Derrick Cade (8), Tuscaloosa Central (Ala.); quarterback Emmanuel Taylor (9), Early County (Ga.); wide receivers Radarius Owens (10) Quitman and Antonio Hughes (11), Morton; defensive back C.J. Estelle (12), Childersburg (Ala.); defensive lineman Jeremy Dillon (13), Forrest County; wide receiver Duane Bilbro (14), Morton; linebacker Quadarius Wallace (15), Union; and wide receiver Fabian Johnson (16), Coahoma County; (second row, from left) wide receiver Walter Grayson (17), Tuscaloosa County (Ala.); defensive lineman Quincy Jeter (18), Hubbard (Chicago, Ill.); running back Dontice Sanders (19), Wetumpka (Ala.); defensive back Bobby Thigpen (21), Forest; linebacker Demarcus Bryant (22), Meridian; defensive backs Elijah Tanksley (23) and Preston Felder (24), both of Meridian; linebacker Jerrod Sewell (25), Tuscaloosa County (Ala.); running backs Jeremy Harvey (26) of Harrison Central, Mark Johnson (28) of Mendenhall and Rodrick Hawkins (30) of Union; defensive back Malcolm Chinn (32), Tuscaloosa County (Ala.); linebackers Chris Watson (34) of West Lauderdale and Javod Wiggins (35) of Grenada; defensive back Gabe Loper (39), Newton County; linebackers Kevin Cayetano (40) of Forest, and Jackie Leggett (42) of Meridian; punter/kicker Chad Mangum (43), Oak Hill Academy; and linebacker Jordan Vance (44), Trinity Episcopal; (third row, from left) defensive lineman Tracy Hill (45), Northeast Lauderdale; linebackers Rob Roberts (46) of Newton County Academy and Demarcus Lewis (47) of Quitman; offensive linemen Andrew Perkins (50) of Northwest Rankin and Josh Young (51) of Starkville; linebacker Octavious Gilbert (52), Prattville (Ala.); offensive linemen Lester Jackson (53) of Tuscaloosa Central (Ala.), Chucky Curry (54) of Newton, Kyle Donald (60) of Louisville and Damion Young (62) of Pelahatchie; defensive lineman Akeem Moore (64), Southside (Selma, Ala.); offensive linemen Cole Stanley (65) of Sumrall, Brandon Fedrick (66) of Neshoba Central, Jared Fleming (70) of Louisville and Alaric Keams (71) of Choctaw Central; defensive lineman Khalid Wilson (72), Wilson Academy (New Orleans, La.); and offensive lineman Jared Huggins (73), Gentry; (fourth row, from left) offensive linemen Fred Smith (74) of Newton County and Will McBeath (75) of Leake Academy; wide receivers Ronnie McMillan (80) of Tuscaloosa County (Ala.) and Octavious Wallace (81) of Union; running backs Clyde Tate (82) of Carthage and Rod Toole (84) of Newton County; coaches Derek Pouncey (wide receivers); James Miller (defensive coordinator); Fred Lyons (defensive line); Brian Anderson (head coach/offensive coordinator); Randy Brunson (defensive ends); Keith Houston (defensive backs); Kyle Watson (offensive line/special teams); and Derek Jones (athletic trainer, Rush Sports Medicine); defensive linemen John McDougle (90) of Newton County, Latavious Davis (94) of Early County (Blakely, Ga.), Jeremy Finley (97) of Meridian and Randy Hornesbuger (98) and Malcolm Kincade (99), both of Louisville. Not pictured is defensive lineman Grant Johnson (95) of Morton. The Warriors begin season action by hosting Coahoma Community College at 6:30 p.m. Thursday, August 27.

WEEK OF August 24, 2009

ECCC looks for great opportunity in 2009 season

SPECIAL TO THE TIMES

DECATUR — Interim head football coach Brian Anderson is hoping momentum is on the side of his East Central Community College Warriors, who finished the 2008 campaign by winning three of their last four contests, including a stunning 44-38 double-overtime shocker over the then number five ranked and playoff-bound Pearl River Community College Wildcats in the season finale in Poplarville.

East Central also posted wins over Northeast (38-7) and Co-Lin (35-28 in OT) during the season-ending stretch, and came within three points (38-35) of upending eventual state champion Gulf Coast.

Anderson, who begins his second year at East Central and will continue to serve as offensive coordinator, is counting on the Warriors to improve on last year's 4-5 overall mark and 3-3 slate in the MACJC South Division.

"The foundation was laid last year and now it is time to build upon that

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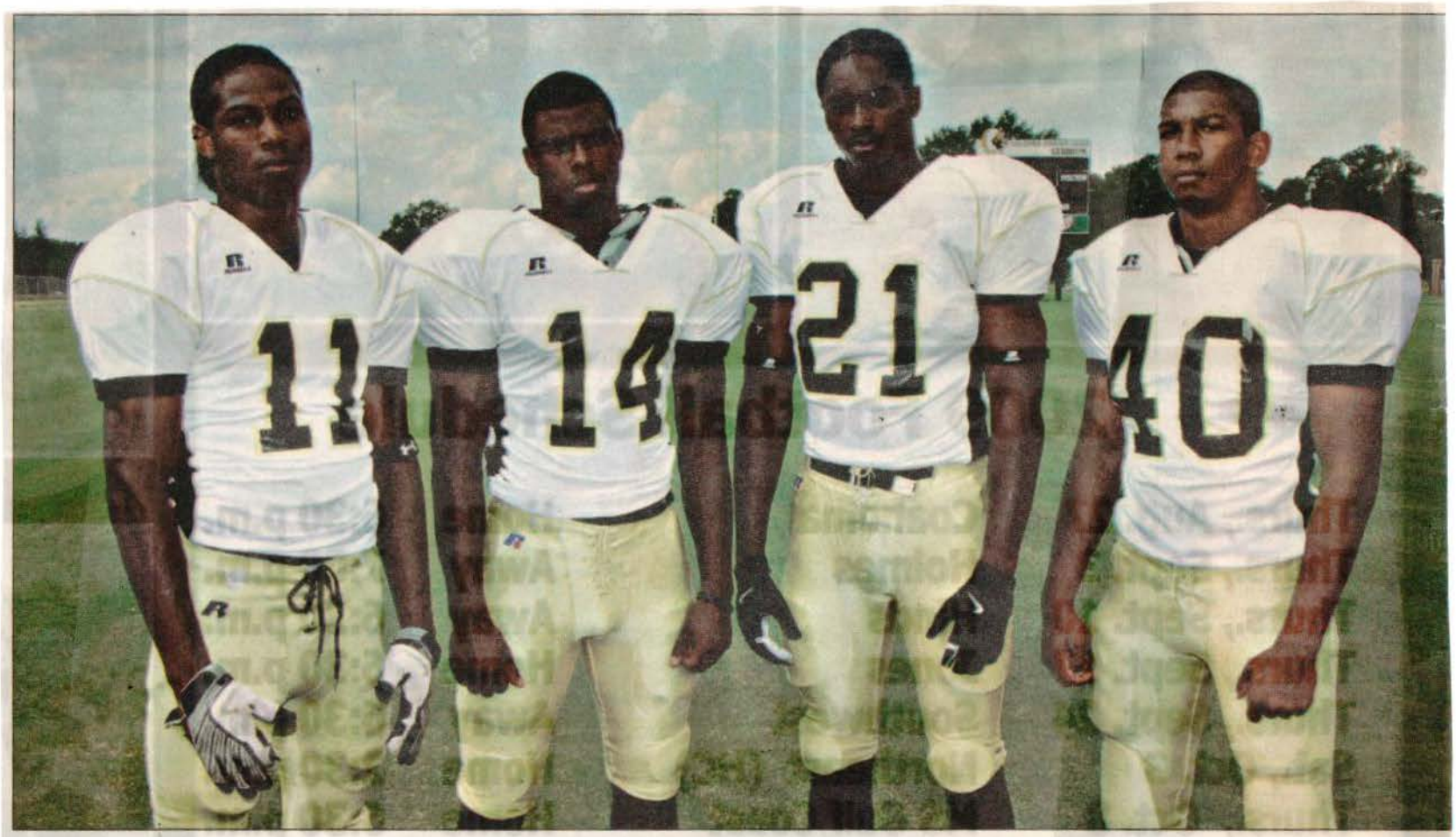
August 24, 2009



ECCC PHOTO

Scott County members of the 2009 East Central Community College football team include, from left, wide receivers Antonio Hughes (6-1, 185) and Duane Bilbro (6-1, 200), both of Morton; defensive back Bobby Thigpen (6-3, 180) and linebacker Kevin Cayetano (5-10, 180), both of Forest. Not pictured is defensive lineman Grant Johnson (6-1, 225) of Morton. The ECCC Warriors begin season action by hosting Coahoma Community College at 6:30 p.m. Thursday, August 27.

foundation," said Anderson, who succeeds former head coach Steve Cheatham who resigned in July, citing health and family reasons.

"I felt like we were one of the top two or three teams in the state toward the end of the season, and hopefully the momentum from the end of the season will carry into this year."

To be successful in 2009, Anderson said the Warriors must begin the season on a positive note.

"Last year we did not get off to a good start and I think our conditioning was a big factor in our loss (47-31) to Coahoma," he said.

"That's why we have put so much emphasis on our summer workout program, which I think will pay big dividends during the season."

And if early preseason practices are an indication of what's to come, Anderson said Warrior fans will be pleased with this year's results.

(continued from previous page)

Scott County Times

WEEK OF August 24, 2009

East Central CC Warriors

SPECIAL TO THE TIMES

DECATUR — Interim head football coach Brian Anderson is hoping momentum is on the side of his East Central Community College Warriors, who finished the 2008 campaign by winning three of their last four contests, including a stunning 44-38 double-overtime shocker over the then number five ranked and playoff-bound Pearl River Community College Wildcats in the season finale in Poplarville.

East Central also posted wins over Northeast (38-7) and Co-Lin (35-28 in OT) during the season-ending stretch, and came within three points (38-35) of upending eventual state champion Gulf Coast.

Anderson, who begins his second year at East Central and will continue to serve as offensive coordinator, is counting on the Warriors to improve on last year's 4-5 overall mark and 3-3 slate in the MACJC South Division.

East Central will get its first test of 2009 by hosting Coahoma Community College on Thursday, Aug. 27. Kickoff is set for 6:30 p.m. at Bailey Stadium on the Decatur campus.

"The foundation was laid last year and now it is time to build upon that foundation," said Anderson, who succeeds former head coach Steve Cheatham who resigned in July, citing health and family reasons. "I felt like we were one of the top two or three teams in the state toward the end of the season, and hopefully the momentum from the end of the season will carry into this year."

To be successful in 2009, Anderson said the Warriors must begin the season on a positive note.

"Last year we did not get off to a good start and I think our conditioning was a big factor in our loss (47-31) to Coahoma," he said.

"That's why we have put so much emphasis on our summer workout program, which I think will pay big dividends during the season."

And if early preseason practices are an indication of what's to come, Anderson said Warrior fans will be pleased with this year's results.

"So far, so good" is how Anderson describes the first week of August drills, which includes a 22-practice schedule prior to the season opener. "We don't have any major injuries to report thus far. The players have responded well under some adverse conditions, as we are right in the middle of two-a-days. The players are competing well and working very hard."

However, Anderson noted the key to success will be the leadership provided by the 19 returning lettermen, beginning with returning quarterback Emmanuel Taylor, a 6 foot, 170-pound player, one of 10 returnees from the offensive unit.

In addition to Taylor, other top offensive returnees include wide

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(continued from previous page)

August 24, 2009

are hoping momentum continues into 2009 season

receiver ***Antonio Hughes (6-2, 195) of Morton***; running back Derrick Cade (5-7, 210) of Tuscaloosa (Ala.) Central; offensive lineman Chuckie Curry (6-6, 290) of Newton; and Jarred Flemming, a 6-5, 250-pound lineman from Louisville.

Anderson said the offensive line will be "anchored" by Flemming and Curry, both of whom are receiving attention from several Division I programs.

On the defensive side, Anderson said the secondary should be the strength going into the season.

"Right now we are two-deep and we're solid," Anderson said. "Our entire defense has also improved and has a lot more speed, particularly at linebacker…where we've got some guys very capable of making some big plays."

Anderson said Chad Mangum of West Point, a 5-9, 175-pound freshman from Oak Hill Academy, will handle kicking and punting duties.

In analyzing the upcoming season, Anderson said the main goal is simple: just win!

"Our goals are to win every game, but the first thing we need to do is have a winning season, make the playoffs and hopefully win a state championship," Anderson said.

"But before we can accomplish those goals, we've got to learn how to win. I think winning those two games in overtime last year taught our team how to win, so we are going into this season with the expectations of winning every game."

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ECCC Warriors

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Continued from previous page

August 31, 2009

'st game of the season

EC mounted another impressive drive following the turnover and reached the end zone when Taylor and Hughes connected on an eight-yard TD pass with just over two minutes left before halftime, extending the Warrior lead to 28-6.

Key plays during the 83-yard, 14-play march include a 19-yard completion from Taylor to wide receiver Duane Bilbro of Morton to the Coahoma 24, and Cade's 12-yard run, which gave EC first and goal at the eight.

The Tigers quickly responded with a score of their own, when new quarterback Garrick Jones of Whitehaven heaved a 23-yard TD strike to tight end Bobby Holiday of Fairley on a fourth and 10 situation with just 28 seconds remaining before the break, cutting the EC advantage to 28-12.

The Warriors took the ensuing kickoff at their 32, and thanks to Taylor's 17-yard burst and his 22-yard strike to Hughes, EC reached the Coahoma 27 and set up Mangum's successful 45-yard field goal to end first-half action.

EC's offense looked unstoppable during that first half, as Taylor connected on 10 of 13 passes for 119 yards and three scores, and had eight carries for 69 yards. Hughes was the top receiver with three catches for 51 yards and a score.

The Warriors held a 15-9 advantage in first downs at halftime, and had the edge in total yardage, 287 to 228.

But the second half was a different story.

WEEK OF August 31, 2009

Coahoma rallies to clip ECCC Warriors in fir

An impressive first half was followed by a lackluster performance the final two quarters as the East Central Community College Warriors let a 19-point halftime lead slip away in a 32-31 defeat to Coahoma Community College Thursday night at Bailey Stadium in Decatur.

"It was a total embarrassment the second half," ECCC interim head coach Brian Anderson said following the disappointing loss. "We weren't ready to play. That's my fault. We weren't lined up where we were supposed to be. We didn't execute plays. We just didn't do the things you need to do to win a ballgame like this."

Anderson said his squad simply made too many mistakes in the second half, which began with the Warriors holding a 31-12 advantage.

"Being the first game, there's going to be some mistakes," he said. "Obviously, we've got a lot of mistakes we can correct. We've got to get to work and try to get better and fix some of our mistakes."

East Central scored on its first two possessions of the game, the first when running back Derrick Cade of Tuscaloosa (Ala.) Central tallied on a one-yard burst, capping a six-play, 74-yard march. Chad Mangum of Oak Hill Academy added the first of his four PATs.

Quarterback Emmanuel Taylor, a product of Early County High School in Blakley, Ga., rushed for 56 yards during the drive, with his longest effort coming on a 27-yard scramble to the Coahoma 14.

Taylor connected on a 30-yard touchdown pass to wide receiver Antonio Hughes of Morton for the second score, capping a 60-yard drive in just six plays, and the Warriors led 14-0 with 6:26 remaining in the first period.

The Tigers drove to the EC 13 on the ensuing possession, but the scoring threat was nixed when Warrior defensive back C. J. Estelle of Childersburg, Ala., intercepted quarterback Kenondrick Brown's pass in the end zone.

Coahoma was not to be denied on its next possession as running back Artavis Gregory of Fairley found pay dirt from three yards out early in second period action. The PAT failed. The scoring drive covered 62 yards and took nine plays.

The Warriors responded with their third score, an 11-yard touchdown pass from Taylor to wide receiver Antonio Ricks of Carthage with about 11 minutes left before halftime.

The scoring drive was set up by Estelle's 37-yard kickoff return to the Coahoma 44. A key play during the march was Taylor's 17-yard completion to Owens on third and six, which gave EC a new set of downs at the Tiger 23-yard-line.

Now trailing 21-6, Coahoma took possession on its 37 following the kickoff and moved into Warrior territory. But the drive ended when EC defensive back Elijah Tanksley of Meridian intercepted Brown's pass at the Warrior 17-yard-line.

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East Central at Holmes

WEEK OF August 31, 2009

Warriors hold off Bulldogs

from staff reports

After blowing a huge halftime lead in their season opener, the East Central Community College Warriors were able to hang on to a 10-point lead Thursday night at Holmes, winning 27-24.

East Central (1-1) coughed up a 31-12 halftime lead against Coahoma, falling 32-31. On the road this week, the Warriors built up a double-digit lead four times and were able to hold off a Holmes rally each time.

27

24

While East Central's offense thrived early in the opener, the Warriors managed just a 42-yard field goal from Chad Mangum before the break against the Bulldogs.

However, sophomore quarterback Emmanuel Taylor hooked up with Antonio Ricks on a 28-yard touchdown pass early in the third quarter to give the Warriors a 10-0 lead.

After Holmes got a 21-yard kick from Jonathan Smith, Mangum answered with another field goal, this time from 30 yards out.

Holmes again cut into the lead, this time with a touchdown as the third quarter ended. But East Central had the answer as Taylor scored on a 1-yard run less than two minutes into the fourth.

Taylor, who threw for 140 yards on 14 of 21 passing, would find Hicks again from 9 yards out with six minutes remaining to give the Warriors another 10-point advantage at 27-17.

Ricks got five passes for 94 yards and the two touchdowns, while Derrick Cade churned out 168 yards on 24 carries.

East Central travels to Hinds Community College next Thursday.

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WEEK OF August 31, 2009

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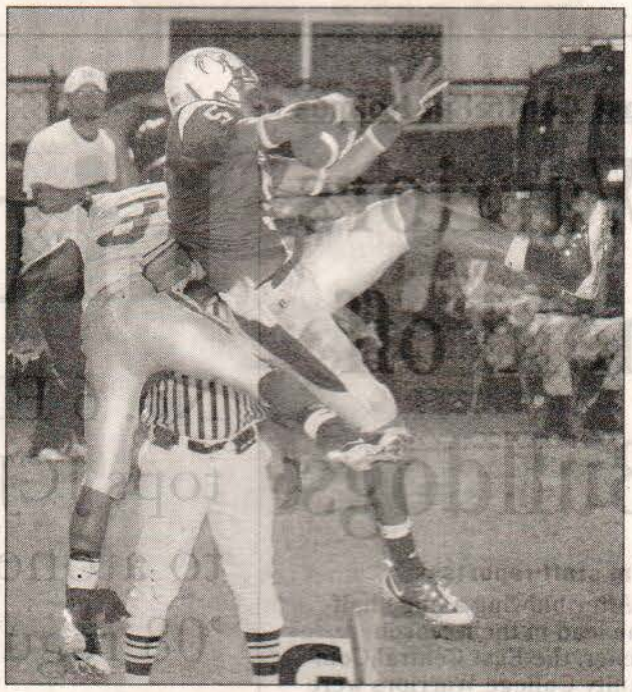

PAULA MERRITT/THE MERIDIAN STAR

INSIDE THE PYLON

East Mississippi Community College's Derrick Steele hauls in a touchdown reception from Randall Mackey early in the second quarter Thursday against Jones County Junior College in Scooba. *See story, page B1.*

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MERIDIAN STAR ✓

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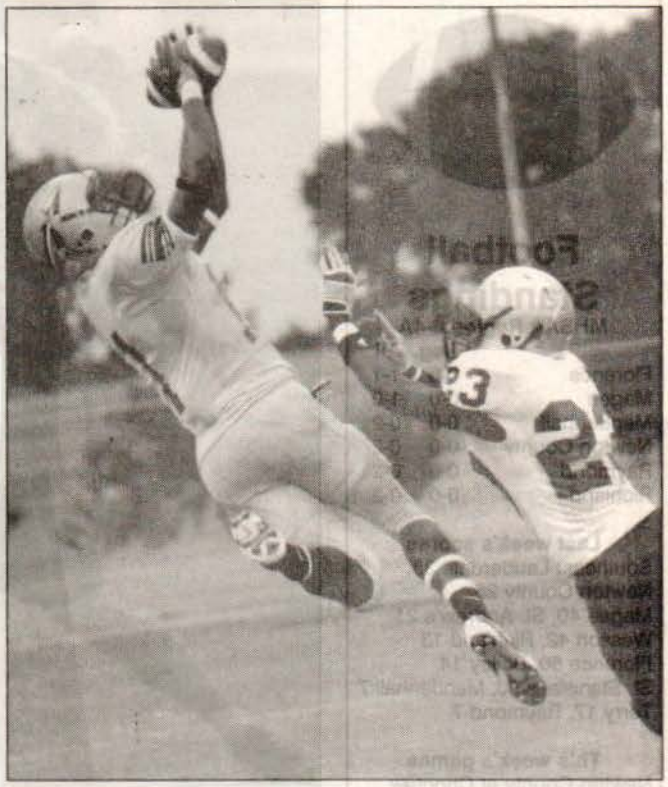
August 31, 2009



ECCC's Antonio Hughes makes a leaping touchdown grab to put the Warriors up 14-0 in Thursday's 32-31 loss to Coahoma.

ECCC photo

10:44 remaining.

Coahoma then drove 80 yards in 10 plays to take the lead, overcoming a first-and-30 from the EC 46 along the way. Gregory scored on a 5-yard run with 5:14 left.

EC reached the Tiger 28 with just under two minutes left, but a fourth-and-9 pass came up about 10 inches short and the Tigers ran out the final 1:28.

"In that pressure-type situation, I want to put the ball in the hands of my quarterback and not my freshman kicker," Anderson said of turning down a 45-yard field goal try.

Coahoma had 479 total yards, 332 in the air, to EC's 401 total yards.

The Warriors travel to Goodman Thursday to take on Holmes, 0-1.

WEEK OF August 31, 2009

Warriors blow 28-6 lead in 32-31 loss to Coahoma

By Marty Stamper
Appeal Sports Editor

It didn't take East Central Community College interim head coach Brian Anderson long to describe his Warriors' second half meltdown in Thursday's 32-31 loss to Coahoma Community College.

"It was a total embarrassment the second half," said Anderson. "We weren't ready to play. That's my fault. We weren't lined up where we were supposed to be. We didn't execute plays. We didn't get calls in. We just didn't do the things you need to do to win a ballgame like this.

"Being the first game, there's going to be some mistakes. Obviously, we've got a lot of mistakes we can correct. We've just got to get to work and try to get better and fix some of our mistakes."

The Warriors did little wrong in the first half as they jumped out to a 31-12 lead.

EC had 293 total yards in the first half to go with 17 first downs. The Warriors' first two possessions resulted in touchdowns and an early 14-0 lead.

EC's first drive covered 74 yards in six plays with Derrick Cade scoring from a yard out. Chad Mangum kicked the first of four extra points.

The Warriors' second possession produced a six-play, 60-yard scoring drive with Emmanuel Taylor throwing a 30-yard scoring toss to a leaping Antonio Hughes just inside the left pylon at the goal line.

Coahoma got its first touchdown on a 3-yard run by Artavis Gregory with 14:14 left in the second quarter.

The Warriors answered with an eight-play, 44-yard scoring drive following a 36-yard kickoff return by C.J. Estelle. Taylor threw an 11-yard touchdown pass to Antonio Ricks with 10:49 left in the half for a 21-6 lead.

EC extended its lead to 28-6 with a 14-play, 83-yard drive following an interception that halted a Coahoma drive at the EC 17. Taylor rolled right and threw an 8-yard toss to Tevin Houston for the touchdown with 2:04 left in the half.

The Tigers closed to within 28-12 on a 23-yard pass from Garrick Jones to Bobby Holiday with 28 seconds left in the half.

A 17-yard run by Taylor and a 22-yard toss from Taylor to Hughes enabled Mangum to try a 45-yard field goal which sailed through the uprights for a 31-12 lead as the half ended.

While the first half belonged to the Warriors, the second half was dominated by Coahoma.

"They executed and we didn't," Anderson said. "That's the bottom line."

The Tigers went 83 yards in six plays with Jones completing a 53-yard bomb to Courtney Vaughn to bring Coahoma to within 31-18.

EC threatened on its next series, but Mangum was just short on a 39-yard field goal bid with five minutes left in the third quarter.

Ladarius Dawson turned in the game's biggest play when he returned a Mangum punt 96 yards for a touchdown as the third quarter ended. A two-point pass pulled the Tigers to within 31-26.

Following a 44-yard kickoff return by Estelle, the Warriors reached the Coahoma 20, but Mangum missed a 37-yard field goal attempt with

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WEEK OF September 7, 2009

Juco Football

East Central, Hinds tangle in MACJC South Division opener

from school reports

East Central Community College will be looking for a second-straight victory when the Warriors visit Hinds Community College tonight in the MACJC South Division opener for both teams. Kickoff is set for 6:30 p.m. at Joe Renfroe Stadium.

ECCC at Hinds

6:30 p.m.
Joe Renfroe Stadium

The Warriors will also be gunning for their second-straight win against the Eagles. Hinds actually defeated EC 35-21 in 2008, but the game was forfeited due to an ineligible player on the Eagle squad.

East Central is coming off its 27-24 win against Holmes Community College last week after falling 32-31 to Coahoma Community College in the season opener.

The Eagles are hoping to snap back from its 23-0 loss to Northwest Mississippi Community College. The Eagles began the 2009 campaign by downing Northeast Mississippi Community College 16-7.

The Warriors boast the No. 2 rated rushing offense in the league, averaging 263 yards in the two contests.

Running back Derrick Cade ranks fourth in individual rushing with 252 yards on 40 carries, a 6.3-yard average. He has one touchdown to his credit. Cade is a 5-foot-9, 220-pound product from Tuscaloosa (Ala.) Central High School.

The EC passing attack is rated eighth and is led by quarterback Emmanuel Taylor, who has completed 33 of 50 passes for 363 yards and five touchdowns.

Overall, EC's offense is ranked

WARRIORS from page B1

fourth in the state with a 434.5-yard average.

Hinds' offense is rated near the bottom with a 114-yard average, however, the team's rushing defense is among the best. The Eagles allow just 74.5 yards rushing per contest and no touchdowns. The Hinds passing defense is not as effective, allowing 233.5 yards per game and four touchdowns.

The East Central defense has allowed 413 yards per contest and six touchdowns.

Freshman defensive lineman Khalid Wilson leads EC in tackles with 12 solo stops and four assists. Wilson is a 6-1, 280-pound product of Wilson Academy in New Orleans.

East Central kicker Chad Mangum second in individual scoring among kickers with 16 points. The 5-9, 175-pounder has connected on all seven PATs and made three of six field goals.

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WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL

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September 7, 2009

'st season victory

sacked McAllister for a nine-yard loss.

The Warriors quickly responded to the Holmes score by marching 57 yards in just four plays, with Taylor finding the end zone on a one-yard run which gave EC a 20-10 advantage. The key play during the successful drive was Cade's 52-yard scamper to the Holmes four-yard line.

Holmes once again successfully responded to an EC tally as McAllister crossed the goal line on a three-yard plunge, capping an eight-play, 62-yard drive with 8:59 remaining in the game.

Now clinging to a 20-17 lead, EC mounted another successful drive, quickly moving from its 25-yard line to pay dirt, with Taylor finding Ricks for their second scoring pass, a nine-yard completion with 6:03 left. The key play during the five-play drive was Taylor's 20-yard pass to Ricks, which gave EC a first down at the Holmes 15.

The Bulldogs put the game's final points on the scoreboard on the ensuing possession when McAllister and Hampton hooked up on a 23-yard TD pass. Hampton, a 6-4 receiver, simply out-jumped the Warrior defender to make the grab.

East Central begins MACJC South Division competition Thursday against Hinds Community College. Kickoff is set for 6:30 p.m. in Raymond.

Hinds beat Northeast 16-7 in their season opener.

WEEK OF September 7, 2009

Warriors clip Holmes 27-24 for fir

SPECIAL TO THE TIMES

DECATUR — Derrick Cade rambled for 172 yards on 22 carries and helped lead East Central Community College to a 27-24 decision over Holmes Community College Thursday night in Goodman for the Warriors' first victory of 2009.

Cade, a 5-9, 220-pound running back and product of Tuscaloosa (AL.) Central, also had several long gains on the game's final drive, including a 16-yard scamper to the Holmes' 18-yard-line in the closing moments to preserve the victory.

Interim head coach Brian Anderson, who was doused with Gatorade commemorating his first win as the Warrior leader, complimented his squad's efforts, which follows a 32-31 disappointing loss to visiting Coahoma in the season opener. EC appeared in control of the non-division match-up and led 31-12 at halftime.

"It was a hard-fought, old fashion football game," said Anderson, who also serves as offensive coordinator. "I think it was a great team win. The defense carried the offense in the first half and into the second half until the offense got rolling. The offensive line and running backs really toted the mail and carried us down the field several times. It is great to have situations like that when the pressure is on and we need to maintain ball control and that's what we did."

Warrior quarterback Emmanuel Taylor also had a productive evening, as he threw touchdown passes of 28 and nine yards to wide receiver Antonio Ricks and scored on a one-yard plunge.

Taylor, a sophomore from Early County High School in Blakley, GA., finished the night by completing nine of 14 passes for 81 yards. Ricks is a former standout at Carthage High School. Chris Mangum, a freshman kicker from Oak Hill Academy, completed the scoring by connecting on field goals of 42 and 30 yards and made all three PATs. His 42-yarder gave EC a 3-0 lead at halftime.

Bulldog quarterback W. J. McAllister connected on two touchdown passes for Holmes, a 53-yard strike to Harry Peoples followed by a 23-yarder to David Hampton. McAllister also found pay dirt on a three-yard plunge. Jonathan Smith added a 21-yard field goal and two PATs to complete the Bulldogs' scoring.

East Central got on the scoreboard on its first possession, when Mangum split the uprights on his 42-yard field goal with 10:32 left in the first period. The scoring drive was set up when Warrior defensive back C.J. Estelle of Childersburg, AL., intercepted a Bulldog pass on the EC 38 and returned the pigskin to the Bulldog 30.

The Warriors were set up for another score following an interception by defensive back Elijah Tanksley of Meridian near midfield. The Warriors drove to the Holmes 21 but were stopped short of a first down following a controversial spot by the officials.

Holmes began an impressive drive early in the second period, moving from its 17 to the EC 24. But the march was nipped in the bud, thanks to Warrior defensive linemen Latavius Davis of Early County, GA., and Malcolm Kincaid of Louisville, who sacked Bulldog quarterback O.J. Hughes for a 13-yard loss on first down. Hughes had three straight incomplete passes following the sack and the Bulldogs were forced to punt on fourth down.

The EC defense stopped another Holmes drive later in the period when defensive lineman John McDougle, a Newton County High School product, sacked Hughes for an eight-yard loss on third and five from the EC 35-yard line.

East Central had an opportunity to pad its 3-0 lead, but Mangum's 47-yard field goal attempt missed the uprights on the final play of the first half.

The Warriors did find scoring success early in the third period when Taylor and Ricks connected on a 28-yard pass, capping a six play, 40-yard march, extending their lead to 10-0.

After forcing a Bulldog punt on the ensuing possession, EC drove for another score as Mangum connected on his 30-yard field goal with 2:11 left in the third quarter.

Holmes wasted little time in responding to the EC score as McAllister fired a 52-yard TD strike to Peoples on the last play of the third period, capping a four-play, 65-yard march, cutting the EC lead to 13-10. The drive began on a positive note for EC, however, as defensive linemen Quincy Jeter of Chicago and Khalid Wilson of New Orleans

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

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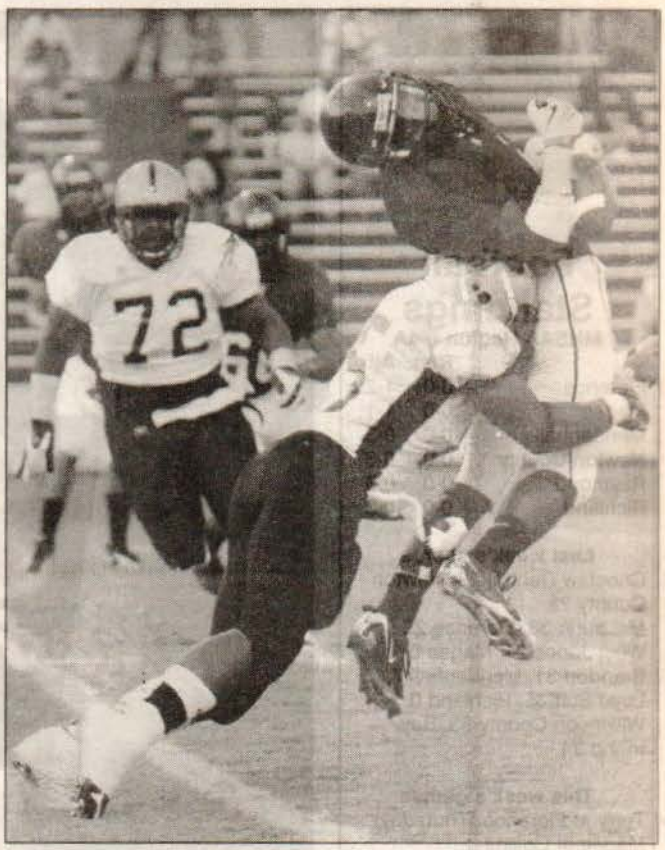
September 7, 2009



ECCC linebacker Quadarius Wallace (15) of Union drills a Holmes receiver in Thursday's 27-24 victory over the Bulldogs.

ECCC photo

8:59 remaining in the game.

A 75-yard scoring drive gave the Warriors some breathing room. Taylor teamed with Ricks on a 9-yard scoring toss with 6:03 left.

EC opens MACJC South Division play Thursday in Raymond against Hinds Community College. Kick-off is set for 6:30 p.m. in Raymond. The Eagles, 1-1, lost 23-0 to Northwest last week.

WEEK OF September 7, 2009

Warriors knock off Holmes

from school reports

Derrick Cade rambled for 172 yards on 22 carries to help lead East Central Community College to a 27-24 win over Holmes Community College Thursday night in Goodman for the Warriors' first victory of 2009.

Cade, a 5-foot-9, 220-pound running back from Tuscaloosa (Ala.) Central, also had several long gains on the game's final drive, including a 16-yard scamper to the Holmes' 18-yard-line in the closing moments to preserve the victory.

Interim head coach Brian Anderson complimented his squad's efforts, which follows a 32-31 disappointing loss to visiting Coahoma in the season opener.

"It was a hard-fought, old fashion football game," said Anderson, who also serves as offensive coordinator. "I think it was a great team win. The defense carried the offense in the first half and into the second half until the offense got rolling. The offensive line and running backs really toted the mail and carried us down the field several times. It is great to have situations like that when the pressure is on and we need to maintain ball control and that's what we did."

Quarterback Emmanuel Taylor also had a productive evening, as he threw touchdown passes of 28 and nine yards to wide receiver Antonio Ricks and scored on a 1-yard plunge.

Taylor finished the night by completing 9-of-14 passes for 81 yards.

Chris Mangum completed the scoring by connecting on field goals of 42 and 30 yards and made all three PATs. His 42-yarder gave EC a 3-0 lead at halftime.

Bulldog quarterback W.J. McAllister connected on two touchdown passes for Holmes, a 53-yard strike to Harry Peoples followed by a 23-yarder to David Hampton. McAllister also found pay dirt on a 3-yard plunge. Jonathan Smith added a 21-yard field goal and two PATs to complete the Bulldogs' scoring.

EC got on the scoreboard on its first possession when Mangum split the uprights on his 42-yard field goal with 10:32 left in the first period. The scoring drive was set up when Warrior defensive back C.J. Estelle intercepted a pass on the EC 38 and returned the pigskin 32 yards to the Holmes 30.

EC had an opportunity to pad its 3-0 lead, but Mangum's 47-yard field goal attempt missed the uprights on the final play of the first half.

The Warriors did find scoring success early in the third period when Taylor and Ricks connected on a 28-yard pass, capping a six play, 40-yard march, extending their lead to 10-0.

After forcing a Bulldog punt on the ensuing possession, EC drove for another score as Mangum connected on his 30-yard field goal with 2:11 left in the third quarter.

Holmes wasted little time in responding as McAllister fired a 52-yard TD strike to Peoples on the last play of the third period, cutting the EC lead to 13-10.

The Warriors marched 57 yards in just four plays with Taylor finding the end zone on a 1-yard run which gave EC a 20-10 advantage. The key play during the successful drive was Cade's 52-yard scamper to the Holmes 4.

McAllister's 3-yard plunge cut EC's lead to 20-17 with

APPEARED IN:

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CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF September 14, 2009

EC photo

ECCC falls to Hinds

Warrior quarterback Emmanuel Taylor of Blakley, Ga., attempts a pass while trying to escape from Hinds defender Chris Baker during East Central's 30-7 defeat to the home standing Eagles Thursday night. Also shown is Warrior running back Derrick Cade.

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NESHOBA DEMOCRAT ✓

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CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF September 14, 2009

Warriors fall to Hinds in district

SPECIAL TO THE TIMES

RAYMOND — Unable to maintain their early lead, East Central Community College's Warriors went scoreless the final three periods and fell 30-7 to Hinds Community College Thursday night in Raymond in the MACJC South Division opener for both teams.

East Central, which fell to 1-2 overall, managed its only points when sophomore quarterback Emmanual Taylor fired a 16-yard strike to freshman running back Jeremy Harvey of Gulfport with 7:11 left in the initial period. Chad Mangum, a freshman from Oak Hill Academy, added the PAT.

Taylor, a product of Early County High School in Blakley, Ga., also connected with sophomore wide receiver Antonio Hughes of Morton on a 28-yard completion during the seven-play, 53-yard scoring drive, which gave EC possession on the Hinds 28. Taylor later moved the Warriors to the 11-yard-line on his 17-yard scamper.

East Central drove deep into Hinds territory on its next possession, but the march stalled when sophomore running back Derrick Cade was stopped short on fourth and one at the Eagle 25. Cade, a product of Tuscaloosa Central, entered the division battle as the fourth-leading rusher in the state with a 126-yard average.

The Warrior defense stopped a possible Hinds score on the ensuing possession, when sophomore defensive back Elijah Tanksley of Meridian intercepted a pass from Hinds quarterback Les Lemons of Vicksburg at the EC 16-yard-line and returned the pigskin to the EC 32.

Prior to the interception, Warrior defensive linemen Jeremy Dillion of Hattiesburg and Randy Hornesburger of Louisville combined talents to sack Lemons for a seven-yard loss at the EC 46.

The Eagles, who improved to 2-1 overall, were not to be denied on their next possession as Lemons found pay dirt on a seven-yard run with 9:43 left before halftime. Hinds botched the PAT attempt and EC still led at 7-6.

After an exchange of possession, Hinds took the lead for good on a 30-yard field goal from Jared Thames with 2:18 left before intermission. The drive began at the EC 29 and was aided by a third sideline violation charged against the Warriors — a 15-yard penalty that gave Hinds a first down on the Warrior 26.

EC responded to the Hinds score by quickly driving from its 23 to the Eagle 24. On first down, Taylor lofted a strike to wide receiver Radarius Owens of Quitman, who stretched his 5-10 frame to make the catch over a Hinds defender in the end zone. However, the play was nullified due to a Warrior penalty. On the next play, Taylor fired a strike to Hughes in the end zone, but he was unable to make the grab. The half ended with Hinds clinging to a two-point lead.

Hinds wasted little time scoring in the third period as Lemons connected with wide receiver Wesley Mounger of Clinton on a 59-yard touchdown pass with 11:48 left in the stanza. Thames added the PAT.

The Warrior offense was stymied most of the third quarter but began clicking again early in the final period, thanks to a fumble recovery at midfield.

During the drive, Taylor had a 10-yard completion to Hughes followed by a six-yard toss to the Morton receiver on a fourth and two situation, which gave EC possession on the Hinds 36. However, the drive would later stall, forcing a Warrior punt.

The Warriors were penalized eight times for 65 yards.

The Warriors return to Bailey Stadium this Thursday to host division rival Jones County Junior College. Kickoff is set for 6:30 p.m.

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(continued from previous page)

September 14, 2009

Warrior quarterback Emmanuel Taylor (9) attempts a pass while trying to escape from Hinds defender Chris Baker (97) during East Central's 30-7 defeat to the homestanding Eagles Thursday night at Raymond.

ECCC photo

offense. Taylor completed 18-of-31 passes for 158 yards and one touchdown. Hughes was the top receiver with six catches for 64 yards. Taylor was also the Warriors' leading rusher with 75 yards on nine carries. Cade had 51 yards on 13 attempts.

The Warriors return home to host division rival Jones County Junior College Thursday. Kickoff is set for 6:30 p.m. The Bobcats, 1-2, got their first win of 2009 with a 28-24 victory over Copiah-Lincoln Saturday in Ellisville.

WEEK OF September 14, 2009

SPORTS SIDE On The E

EC Diamond Warrior golf tourney Oct. 17

Supporters of East Central Community College's baseball program are encouraged to participate in the annual Diamond Warrior Golf Tournament scheduled Saturday, Oct. 17, at Decatur Country Club.

Tee time for the two-person select is set for 8 a.m.

Cost is $30 per person, which includes lunch.

For more information contact Chris Clark, 601-635-6245 or Chris Harris, 601-616-1088.

Hinds waylays Warriors

from school reports

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EC drove deep into Hinds territory on its next possession, but the march stalled when sophomore running back Derrick Cade was stopped short on fourth-and-one at the Eagle 25.

The Warrior defense stopped a possible Hinds score on the ensuing possession, when Elijah Tanksley intercepted a pass from Hinds quarterback Les Lemons at the EC 16 and returned the pigskin to the EC 32.

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The half ended with Hinds clinging to a two-point lead.

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The Warrior offense was stymied most of the third quarter, but began clicking again early in the final period, thanks to a fumble recovery at midfield.

During the drive, Taylor had a 10-yard completion to Hughes followed by a 6-yard toss to the Morton receiver on a fourth-and-2, which gave EC possession on the Hinds 36. The drive later stalled, forcing a punt.

Hinds extended its lead to 23-7 on the ensuing possession, as Lemons connected with Treyvias Alexander on a 24-yard TD pass with 8:19 left, capping a seven-play, 79-yard drive.

Hinds took advantage of a Warrior fumble by marching 55 yards in eight plays, climaxed by atrick Durr's 4-yard touchdown scamper with just 43 seconds left to play.

EC had 304 yards of total

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WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF September 14, 2008

ECCC continued b3

The Warriors then staged one of their best drives of the night, picking up three first downs before Emmanuel Taylor was sacked for a 14-yard loss back to the ECCC 41 with 3:36 to go in the half.

The Warriors returned the favor to halt a late Bobcat threat. With third-and-1 at the ECCC 17, Quincy Jeter sacked Robinson for an 18-yard loss. A fourth down pass fell incomplete as Jones took a 21-3 lead into halftime.

A Warrior gamble early in the second half didn't pay off as a fourth-and-1 play from their 34 failed to pick up a first down as Taylor was stopped short while trying to go wide. Two plays later, Brown scored on a 23-yard run for a 27-3 Jones lead.

C.J. Estelle awoke the Warrior faithful with a 69-yard punt return for a touchdown with 7:38 remaining in the third quarter. Mangum's PAT cut Jones' lead to 27-10. Chancellor connected on a 40-yard field goal on the second play of the fourth quarter to put the Bobcats up 30-10.

Jones had second-and-5 at the ECCC 10, but a sack by Quadarius Wallace resulted in a 13-yard loss and Gabe Loper picked off a Robinson pass at the ECCC 1.

Even that led to points for Jones as Dontice Sanders was tackled in the end zone for a safety with 5:07 left after trying to run wide on the next play.

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(Continued from previous page)

September 14, 2009

Looking for some payback

Controversial turnover cost Warriors last year against Bobcats

from school reports

A controversial interception on the 2-yard line with 2:47 remaining a nixed a possible game-tying or game-winning score by the East Central Community College Warriors in their upset bid against the then nationally-ranked Jones County Junior College Bobcats in their 2008 matchup in Ellisville.

The Warrior "miscue" came on a first-and-goal situation from the Bobcat 6-yard-line. Freshman quarterback Emmanuel Taylor — the current EC signal caller- lofted a pass which appeared to have been caught by sophomore wide receiver Kendrick May who leaped high in the air to make the grab over Bobcat defender Mark Gray. However, officials ruled Gray was in possession when the two players fell to the ground, and Jones held on for the 42-35 nail-biting victory.

Although results of the game will never be known had EC made the touchdown completion, interim head coach Brian Anderson — who was serving his first year as offensive coordinator — said the coaching staff and sophomore players still have that controversial call on their minds.

"We thought it was a bad call and coach (Steve) Cheatham (then head coach) made his feelings known to the officials," said Anderson. "Although we are not using last year's controversial ending as a motivator, I do feel that our guys are ready to play the Bobcats...it should be an exciting game."

Both teams bring identical 1-2 records to the division matchup scheduled at 6:30 p.m. today in Decatur, although Jones County is 1-0 in the MACJC South Division after beating Copiah-Lincoln 28-24 last week. The Bobcats' two losses are to North opponents Itawamba (21-7) and East Mississippi (28-17). East Central fell to Coahoma 32-31 in the season opener, defeated Holmes 27-24 the following week and dropped a 30-7 decision to Hinds last week to begin division competition.

JCJC at ECCC

6:30 p.m.
Bailey Stadium

East Central enters the rivalry as the state's second-ranked rushing offense in the state and eighth-ranked rushing squad in the nation. The Warriors are averaging 249 yards on the ground with sophomore running back Derrick Cade leading the way with 345 yards on 53 carries, a 115-yard average. Cade, who has one TD to his credit, is ranked fourth in rushing in the nation and fourth in the state. Jones County is rated sixth in rushing offense with a 152-yard average.

In passing offense, East Central is rated seventh in the state and 25th nationally by averaging 194.6 yards per contest. Taylor has accounted for all EC's passing yardage by completing 53 of 84 passes for six touchdowns. He has no interceptions. Taylor is rated 21st nationally and sixth in the state. The Bobcats are ranked 12th in passing offense, averaging 135.3 yards per contest.

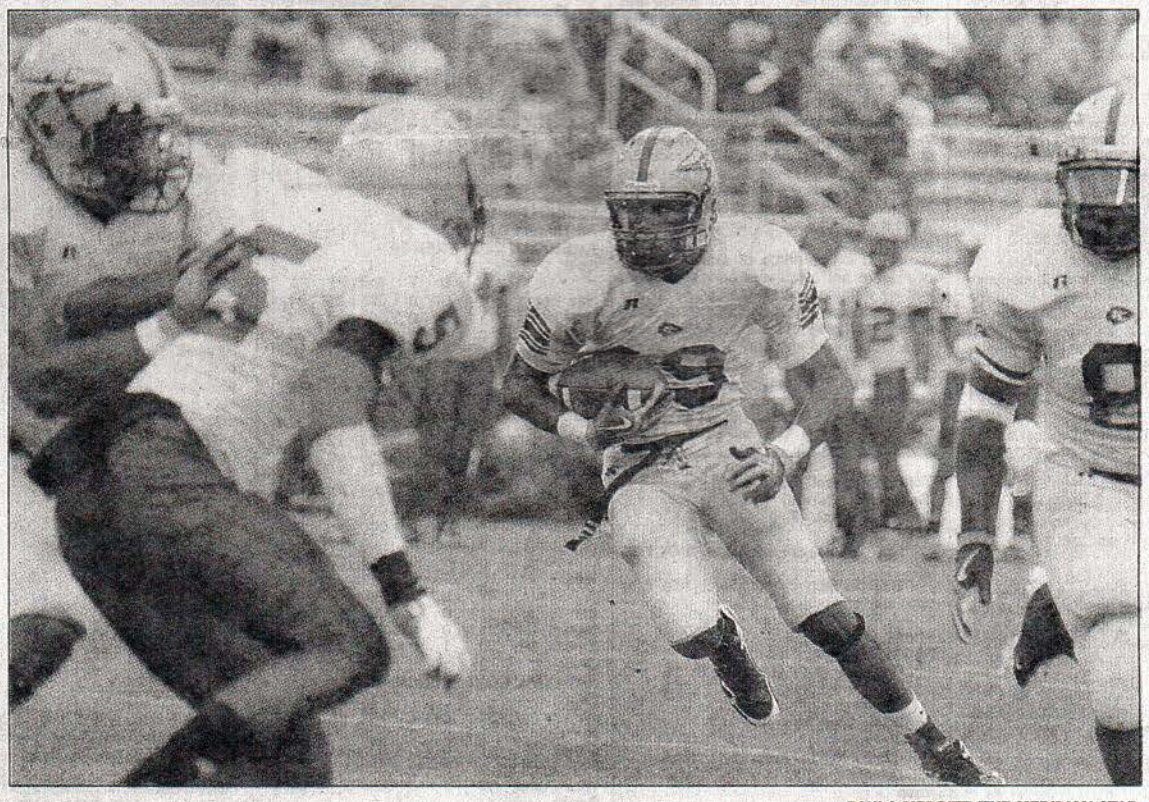
East Central is also doing well with special teams and in the kicking game.

Sophomore C. J. Estelle leads the state in

See **Warriors** on page B3

WEEK OF September 14, 2009

Junior College Football: Jones County at East Central



PAULA MERRITT/THE MERIDIAN STAR

LOOKING FOR YARDS

East Central Community College's Dontice Sanders breaks loose in the open field earlier this season against Coahoma Community College.

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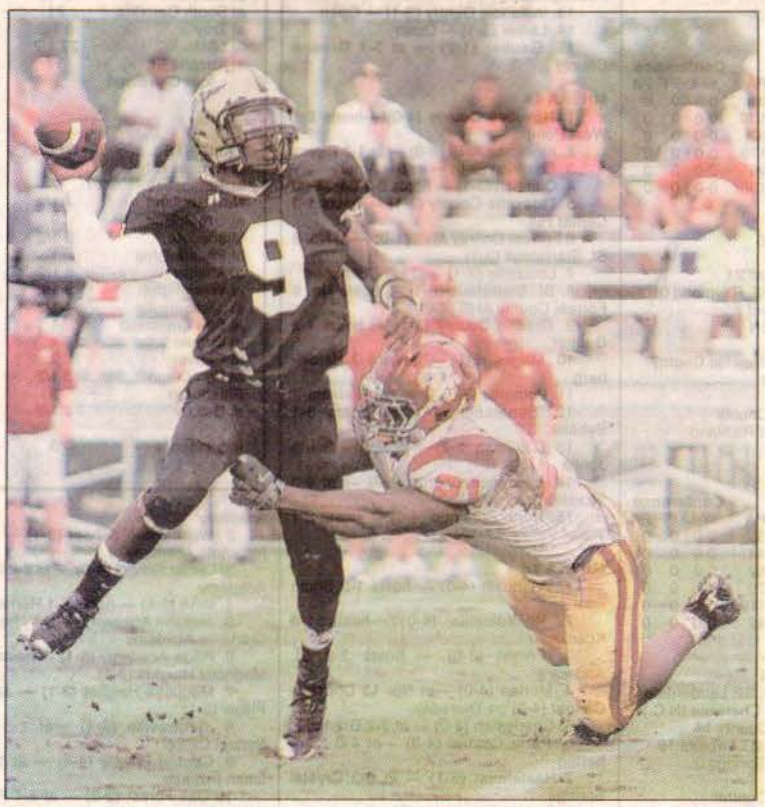
WEEK OF September 14, 2009

Juco Football: Jones County at East Central



SUBMITTED PHOTO

MAKING THE THROW

East Central Community College's Emmanuel Taylor stays upright while Jones County Junior College's D.A. Autry goes for the tackle.

Warriors fall, 32-10

By Marty Stamper
The Newton County Appeal

DECATUR — The East Central Community College Warriors dropped to 1-3 overall and 0-2 in the MACJC South Division with a 32-10 loss to Jones County Junior College Thursday night. Jones improved to 2-2 and 2-0.

32

10

The Warriors took an early lead following a Jones turnover. Bobcat quarterback Brian Robinson fumbled after being hit from behind on a run with ECCC's Jeremy Dillon recovering at the Jones 36. Eight plays picked up 30 yards to set up Chad Mangum's 23-yard field goal with 10:44 showing in the first quarter.

The Bobcats answered quickly following a 48-yard kickoff return by Chris Lofton to the ECCC 39. Six plays later, Bubba Brown scored on a 15-yard run that gave the Bobcats the lead for good. Jacob Chancellor's extra point put Jones up 7-3 with 7:15 left in the first quarter.

The Bobcats took advantage of a short punt by Mangum to up their lead to 14-3. Under heavy pressure, Mangum's high punt traveled only 13 yards with most of ECCC's coverage well beyond that point. Jared Quinn picked up the ball near the Warrior sideline and returned it 58 yards for a touchdown with 13:17 remaining in the second quarter.

Jones extended its lead to 21-3 with 8:02 left in the half when Robinson found Jamieon Keys well behind the Warrior secondary for a 30-yard scoring toss.

See **ECCC** on page B3

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NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

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WEEK OF September 21, 2009

Warriors looking for division win

from school repots

Two teams with identical records will battle for their first division victory when the East Central Community College Warriors visit Southwest Mississippi Community College Thursday night. Kickoff is set for 6:30 p.m. on the Summit campus.

Each squad is 1-3 overall and 0-2 in the MACJC South Division.

Warrior interim head coach Brian Anderson said his team is focused on getting back into the win column and snapping a four-game losing streak to the Bears.

"We've had a good week of practice, despite the bad weather," said Anderson. "Our guys are determined to play hard and beat Southwest. We know that the loser of this game will be in last place in the division – that's enough motivation in itself!"

The Warriors defeated Holmes 27-24 for their only win and sustained losses to Coahoma (32-31), Hinds (30-7) and Jones (32-10).

EC has scored 75 points and allowed 118 points.

The Bears clipped Mississippi Delta 13-12 in the season opener for their lone victory, followed by losses to Coahoma (34-21), Gulf Coast (33-16) and Copiah-Lincoln (15-3).

Southwest has scored 53 points and allowed 81.

East Central is ranked fourth in rushing offense in the state and 11th nationally by compiling 831 yards on 122 carries, a 207.7-yard average. Warriors rushers have scored two touchdowns.

Sophomore running back Derrick Cade is ranked fourth in individual rushing with 377 yards on 60 carries, a 6.3-yard average. Cade, who has one touchdown to his credit, is ranked 15th nationally. He is a product of Tuscaloosa Central High School.

Quarterback Emmanuel Taylor is rated sixth among the state's rushers by compiling 285 yards on 41 carries, a 6.9-yard average. Taylor, who hails from Early County High School in Blakely, Ga., is ranked 27th nationally. He has also scored one touchdown.

Southwest is last in rushing offense with a 30.5-yard average.

East Central's passing offense

See **ECCC** on page B3

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September 21, 2009

ECCC from page B1

is also rated high in the state at sixth place. Taylor has completed 66 of 108 passes for 762 yards, a 190.5-yard average. He has also thrown for six touchdowns. In the individual competition, Taylor is ranked sixth in the state and 17th nationally.

Freshman wide receiver Antonio Hughes of Morton is the team's top receiver with 17 catches for 246 yards and one touchdown.

The Bears' passing offense is ranked ninth in the state by completing 50 of 125 attempts for 564 yards, a 141-yard average. They have scored four touchdowns via the pass.

Overall, EC's offense is rated fifth in the state and 11th nationally. The Southwest offense is rated last in the state.

Neither team is doing well on defense, although the Southwest passing defense is rated high.

The Warriors are ranked eighth in rushing defense (173.8 yards per game) and ninth in passing defense (208.5 yards). Overall, EC is rated 10th by allowing 382 yards per contest.

EC sophomore defensive back Elijah Tanksley of Meridian leads the state in interceptions with five. CJ Estelle, a sophomore defensive back from Childersburg, Ala., is fourth with two interceptions. Estelle is also sixth in kickoff returns with 10 returns for 233 yards. Khalid Wilson, a freshman defensive lineman from Wilson Academy in New Orleans, is ranked fifth in the state in tackles with 25 solo stops and nine assists.

Southwest is ninth in rushing defense (155.8 yards) and fourth in passing defense (183.3 yards). Overall, the Bears are eighth, allowing 339 yards per contest.

Warrior kicker Chad Mangum of Aberdeen is ranked third in the state in individual scoring with 32 points. Mangum, a product of Oak Hill Academy, has made all nine PATs and connected on four of seven field goal attempts.

The ECCC/Southwest battle can be heard on KICKS 98 (98.3 FM) featuring veteran broadcasters Melvin Wooten and Gilbert Barham.

WEEK OF September 21, 2001

ECCC offense falters in 32-10 loss to Jones CC

East Central Community College's highly-rated rushing offense never got on track on a rain-soaked Warrior field Thursday night but conditions did not seem to bother the visiting Jones County Junior College Bulldogs who cruised to a 32-10 MACJC South Division victory at Bailey Stadium.

The Warriors, who dropped to 1-3 overall and 0-2 in division play under interim head coach Brian Anderson, had just 169 yards in total offense, most of which came via the passing game.

Sophomore quarterback Emmanual Taylor, who is one of the nation's top passers, completed 14 of 29 attempts for 159 yards in the loss. Taylor, a product of Early County High School in Blakely, Ga., was rated 17th in the nation and sixth in the state prior to the division matchup. His top receiver against Jones County was sophomore Antonio Hughes of Morton, who had six catches for 63 yards.

Warrior workhorse Derrick Cade, who was ranked fourth in the state and nation with a 115-yard average per game, managed just 16 yards on six carries.

Return specialist CJ Estelle provided the only scoring highlight for East Central, when his 69-yard punt return midway in the third period cut the Jones lead to 27-10 following Chad Mangum's PAT. Estelle is a sophomore from Childersburg, Ala. Mangum, a freshman from Aberdeen and product of Oak Hill Academy, also connected on a 23-yard field goal early in first-period action to give EC a 3-0 advantage.

For Jones County, which improved to 2-2 overall and 2-0 in division competition, the running game was most effective as freshman Bubba Brown rambled for 152 yards on 36 carries and scored two touchdowns – a 15-yard scamper in the first period and a 23-yard run in the third stanza.

Freshman Bobcat quarterback Brian Robinson completed seven of 18 passes for 87 yards and one touchdown – a 30-yard strike to sophomore receiver Jamieon Keys of Taylorsville in the final seconds of first half action.

Jones' other scores came on a 59-yard punt return by Jared Quinn of Oak Grove High School early in the second period, and a 40-yard field goal by Jacob Chancellor of Quitman early in the fourth quarter. The Bobcats put the final points on the scoreboard when Warrior running back Dontice Sanders of Wetumpka, Ala., was tackled in the end zone for a safety late in the game.

East Central continues division competition Thursday by traveling to Southwest Mississippi Community College. Kickoff is set for 6:30 p.m. on the Summit campus. The Bears are also 1-3 overall and 0-2 in the division following their 15-3 loss to Copiah-Lincoln Community College.

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WEEK OF September 21, 2004

Jones jumps on Warriors

By Marty Stamper
Appeal Sports Editor

The East Central Community College Warriors dropped to 1-3 overall and 0-2 in the MACJC South Division with a 32-10 loss to Jones County Junior College Thursday night at Decatur.

Jones improved to 2-2 and 2-0.

The Warriors took an early lead following a Jones turnover. Bobcat quarterback Brian Robinson fumbled after being hit from behind on a run with EC's Jeremy Dillon recovering at the Jones 36. Eight plays picked up 30 yards to set up Chad Mangum's 23-yard field goal with 10:44 showing in the first quarter.

The Bobcats answered quickly following a 48-yard kickoff return by Chris Lofton to the EC 39. Six plays later, Bubba Brown scored on a 15-yard run that gave the Bobcats the lead for good. Jacob Chancellor's extra point put Jones up 7-3 with 7:15 left in the first quarter.

The Bobcats took advantage of a short punt by Mangum to up their lead to 14-3. Under heavy pressure, Mangum's high punt traveled only 13 yards with most of EC's coverage well beyond that point. Jared Quinn picked up the ball near the Warrior sideline and returned it 58 yards for a touchdown with 13:17 remaining in the second quarter.

Jones extended its lead to 21-3 with 8:02 left in the half when Robinson found Jamieon Keys well behind the Warrior secondary for a 30-yard scoring toss.

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The Warriors returned the favor to halt a late Bobcat threat. With third-and-1 at the EC 17, Quincy Jeter sacked Robinson for an 18-yard loss. A fourth down pass fell incomplete as Jones took a 21-3 lead into halftime.

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Even that led to points for Jones as Dontice Sanders was tackled in the end zone for a safety with 5:07 left after trying to run wide on the next play.

The Warriors travel to Summit Thursday to take on Southwest, 1-3.

EC quarterback Emmanuel Taylor (9) attempts a pass while being tackled by Jones' D.A. Autry.

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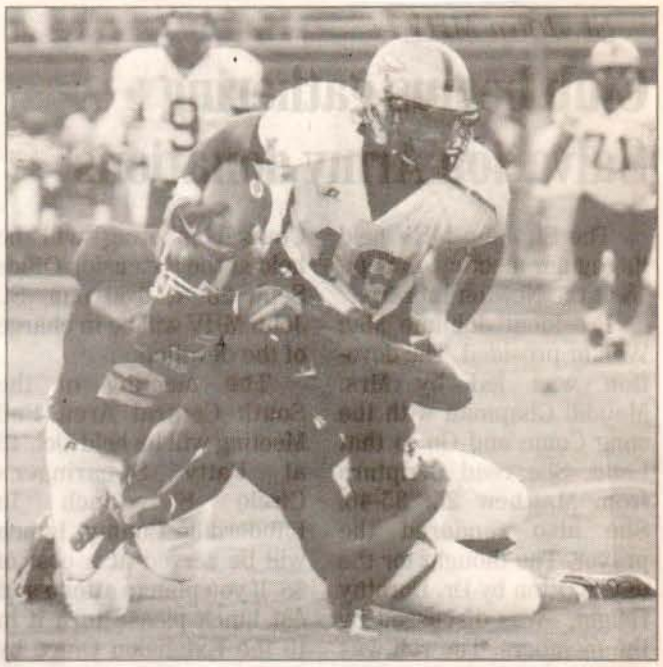
September 28, 200



Warrior running back Jeremy Harvey (18) tries to elude Southwest tacklers during EC's 21-20 loss to the Bears Thursday in Summit. EC hosts Northeast Mississippi Community College Saturday for homecoming. Kickoff is set for 2:30 p.m.

EC photo

on the ensuing possession, when Mangum's 43-yard field goal attempt was partially blocked with 9:39 left in the contest.

The missed field goal evidently sparked the Southwest offense, which quickly marched 75 yards in six plays for the go-ahead score on Jennings' short run. A key play during the drive was Jennings' 39-yard pass to Reggie Sims, which gave Southwest possession at the Warrior 29.

EC will take a break from division play this week by hosting Northeast Mississippi Community College in the annual homecoming battle.

Kickoff is set for 2:30 p.m. The Tigers are 2-3 overall following their 25-10 win over Holmes Thursday.

WEEK OF September 28, 2009

Warriors fall 21-20 to Bears

from school reports

Missed opportunities and turnovers proved costly for the East Central Community College Warriors, who were unable to maintain a touchdown lead at halftime and fell 21-20 to Southwest Mississippi Community College Thursday night in Summit.

EC, which dropped to 1-4 overall and 0-3 in the MACJC South Division, carried a 20-14 lead into intermission only to have the Bears (2-3, 1-2) rally for the game-winning tally — a two-yard run by quarterback Stanley Jennings with 7:25 remaining, capping a six-play, 75-yard drive.

EC took possession three times following the Bears' touchdown, but could not take advantage of the opportunities. EC was forced to punt from its 31 on the first opportunity, turned the ball over via an interception at the Warrior 34 on the next series, and gave up possession on downs at the EC 25 on the squad's final effort with just over minute remaining.

The division battle began on a positive note for the Warriors, who scored on their first possession when running back Derrick Cade found the end zone on a 1-yard burst, capping a 13-play, 72-yard march. Chad Mangum added the extra point.

Cade, one of the state's top rushers, had 91 yards on 19 carries.

Key plays during the touchdown drive included a 16-yard yard strike from Emmanuel Taylor to Antonio Hughes to the Southwest 39, followed by Taylor's 26-yard completion to Tevin Houston to the 1.

Taylor finished with a 16-of-31 effort for 235 yards and one score.

Southwest wasted little time in responding and put itself in scoring position on Mardavian Martin's 54-yard kickoff return to the EC 34. Four plays later, Jennings crossed the goal line on a 1-yard run. Brandon Thomas' PAT knotted the game at 7-7.

EC responded to the Bears' score by marching 68 yards in nine plays, capped by Taylor's 3-yard TD strike to Radarius Owens. Mangum's PAT sailed wide left and eventually came back to haunt the Warriors, who led 13-7.

Key plays during the drive included a roughing-the-punter call which gave EC a first down near midfield, followed by Taylor's 34-yard completion to Hughes at the Southwest 3.

Southwest took its first lead late in the second period after capitalizing on a Warrior fumble. The Bears took possession on their 45 following the miscue and scored 13 plays later on Jennings' 4-yard dash with 5:01 left before halftime. Thomas' PAT gave Southwest a 14-13 advantage.

Once again the Warriors responded with a score of their own, this time when Dontice Sanders tallied on a 6-yard run with 42 seconds remaining in the half, climaxing a 72-yard march in nine plays. Mangum added the PAT and EC held a 20-14 advantage at the half.

Following a missed field goal by Southwest in the third quarter, the Warriors took possession on their 20 and drove to the Southwest 39, but the scoring threat ended when Taylor's pass was intercepted by the Bears' J.D. Ratliff at the East Central 46.

Later, EC put together an impressive march that began on its 9 but ended on the Southwest 16 when Cade fumbled while fighting for additional yardage.

The Warriors missed on another scoring opportunity

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

NEWTON COUNTY APPEAL ✓

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF September 28, 2009

Northeast Mississippi at East Central

Happy Homecoming

PAULA MERRITT/THE MERIDIAN STAR

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

NEWTON COUNTY APPEAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

MERIDIAN STAR ✓ _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

(Continued from previous page)

September 28, 2009

TAKING OFF

East Central Community College's Emmanuel Taylor finds running room as he sprints past Northeast Mississippi's Patrick Grant for a Warrior touchdown Saturday at Bailey Stadium.

Warriors use late score to shock Tigers

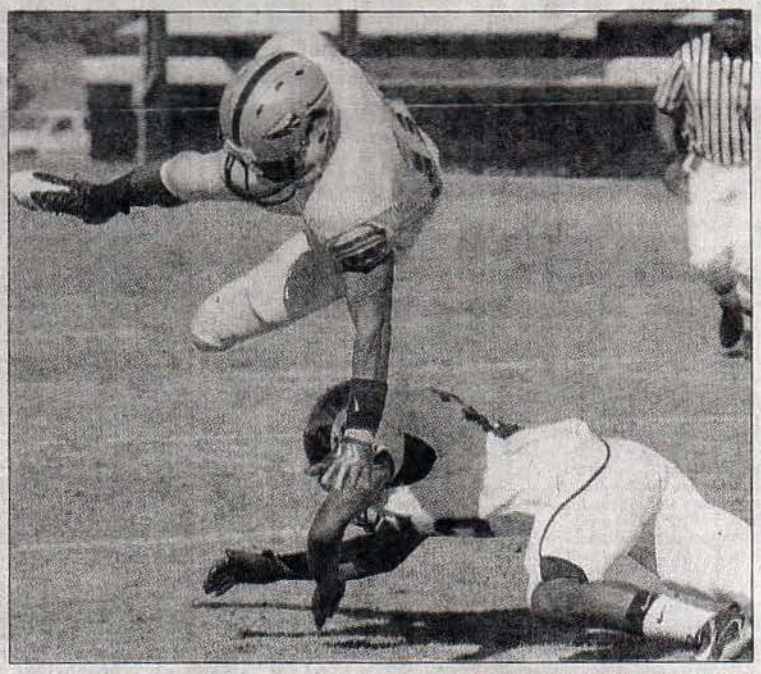
By Jamie Wachter
executive sports editor

DECATUR — Lightning can strike twice.

After tying the score on the last play before halftime Saturday, East Central Community College's big-play offense struck again on the final play in regulation to force overtime at Bailey Stadium, where the Warriors emerged with a 34-28 homecoming win against Northeast Mississippi. The Warriors improved to 2-4, while Northeast fell to 2-4.

"We knew they were susceptible to the big play," East Central coach Brian Anderson said. "It's amazing to me with all the adversity — the two 1-point losses that we've had — that we were able to battle back when it just seems that it's over. But that is the great thing about football, it's never over

See **Warriors** on page C3

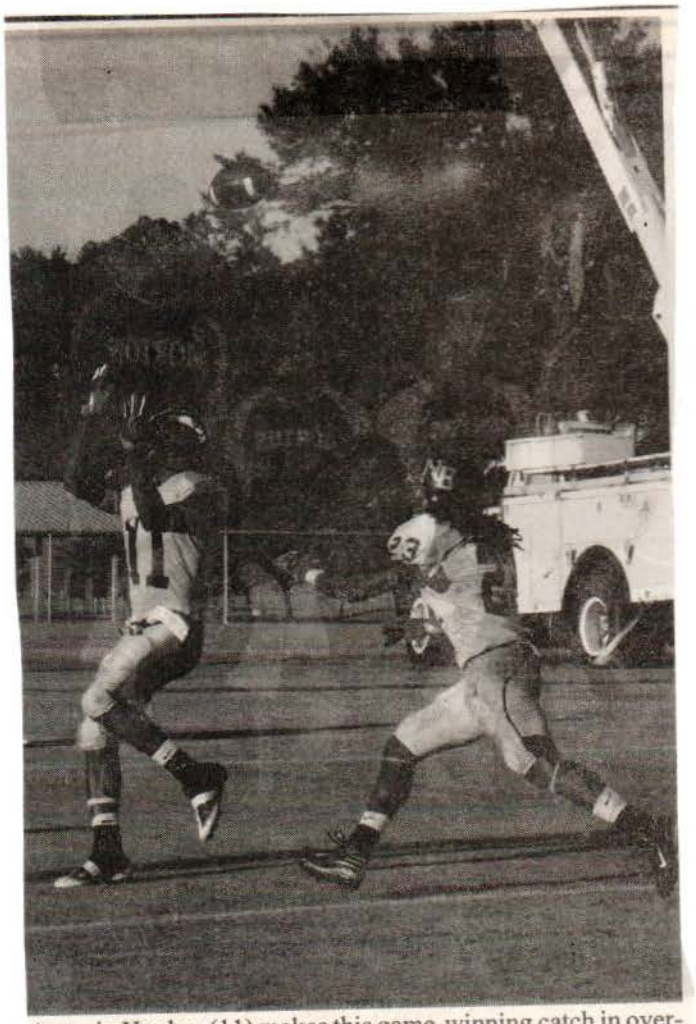


PAULA MERRITT/THE MERIDIAN STAR

GOING AIRBORNE

East Central's Radarius Owens is upended by Northeast Mississippi's Darius Carothers after a nice gain Saturday.

WEEK OF October 5, 2009



Antonio Hughes (11) makes this game-winning catch in overtime for the East Central Community College Warriors who rallied from a late 14-point deficit to stun Northeast Mississippi Community College 34-28 during Saturday's homecoming contest in Decatur. Hughes, a product of Morton High School, caught the 25-yard strike from quarterback Emmanuel Taylor, who finished the day by completing 19 of 39 passes for 351 yards and four touchdowns. Also shown is Northeast defender John Ware (23). East Central improved to 2-4 overall following the non-division contest. (EC Photo)

ECCC Warriors Rally to Shock Northeast 34-28 in OT

Emmanuel Taylor's 25-yard touchdown pass to Antonio Hughes in overtime completed a stellar performance for the sophomore quarterback and provided East Central Community College with a stunning 34-28 homecoming victory over Northeast Mississippi Community College Saturday afternoon on the Decatur campus.

Taylor, a product of Early County High School in Blakely, Ga., completed 19 of 39 passes for 351 yards and four touchdowns, two of which amazingly came on the final play of each half. Taylor also compiled 127 yards rushing on 13 carries and found pay dirt on a 38-yard run.

The win snapped a three-game skid for the Warriors (2-4) who rallied for two late scores - including Taylor's 36-yard touchdown strike to Ronnie McMillan as time expired in regulation – to force the extra period. The Taylor to McMillan pass capped an 82-yard, nine-play drive that began with just over a minute remaining.

Interim Warrior head coach Brian Anderson – who was obviously ecstatic following the unbelievable comeback – praised his squad for not giving up, especially when trailing by 14 points with less than five minutes left in regulation.

"It's amazing to me with all the adversity - the two one-point losses that we've had - that we were able to battle back when it just seems that it's over. But that's the great thing about football; it's never over until that horn blows!"

STATISTICS

The EC offense, which had 20 first downs, had 351 yards passing and 155 yards rushing for a 506 total.

Dontice Sanders, a product of Wetumpka (Ala.) High School, led EC receivers with 100 yards on three catches and one score. Ronnie McMillan, who hails from Tuscaloosa (Ala.) County High School, had 81 yards on five grabs and also scored. Antonio Hughes of Morton had four catches for 62 yards and scored a touchdown. Jeremy Harvey, a product of Harrison Central, had 57 yards on two catches and a touchdown. Radarius Owens of Quitman had two catches for 21 yards.

Warrior fans are asked to wear black for the MACJC South Division battle, which begins at 6:30 p.m. in Bailey Stadium.

The Bulldogs, ranked sixth in the latest NJCAA poll, defeated Copiah-Lincoln Community College 38-14 last week to improve to 5-1 overall and 3-0 in league competition.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

NEWTON COUNTY APPEAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON ✓

MERIDIAN STAR _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF October 5, 2009

Warriors pull off miracle

from school reports

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"It's amazing to me with all the adversity — the two one-point losses that we've had — that we were able to battle back when it just seems that it's over. But that's the great thing about football; it's never over until that horn blows!"

Many in the homecoming crowd thought the "fat lady had already sung" and began leaving the stadium when Northeast (2-4) stretched its lead to 28-14 with 3:49 remaining.

But Taylor and the Warriors had other ideas and quickly marched 65 yards in just six plays, capped by Taylor's 43-yard TD pass to Jeremy Harvey with 1:29 left. A key play during the scoring drive included Taylor's 14-yard pass to McMillan on third-and-seven, which gave EC possession on the Tiger 48.

After the Warrior defense forced the Tigers to punt on the ensuing possession, EC took over on its own 18 with just 1:06 left.

Taylor scrambled for 23 yards on first down to the EC 41, and later connected with McMillan on a 7-yard pass to the Warrior 48. After three straight incomplete passes, Taylor and Tevin Houston hooked up for a 16-yard completion on fourth-and-10 to the Tiger 36. Only seconds remained when EC called its final timeout to set the final play. Taylor took the snap from the shotgun formation and, after scrambling briefly, lofted a 36-yard pass to McMillan, who had gotten behind the Tiger defense in the end zone. Chad Mangum booted his fourth PAT and sent the contest into overtime.

Northeast went on offense first from the 25-yard line in the extra period and quickly moved to the 13. However, the Warrior defense stiffened and forced the Tigers to attempt a 30-yard field goal, but Tyler Turner's kick was wide right and set the stage for the Warriors' game-winning score.

The Tigers put the first points on the scoreboard when speedster Jeremy Cannon tallied the first of his four touchdowns on a 6-yard run with 5:41 left in the first period. Turner made the first of his four PATs to give Northeast a 7-0 lead.

EC tied the contest on the ensuing possession when Taylor found the end zone on his 36-yard scamper, capping a 63-yard, five-play drive with 2:43 remaining in the initial period.

The Tigers regained the lead early in the second period on Cannon's 51-yard burst through the Warrior defense.

EC threatened to score during several opportunities in the second period — including a first-and-goal situation on the Tiger 3 with just under five minutes left before halftime. However, the scoring opportunity was nixed when Taylor threw one of his three interceptions on a fade route in the end zone.

Taylor apparently wanted a more dramatic way to tie the contest and fired a strike to Dontice Sanders in the end zone on a 41-yard scoring pass play as time expired in the first half. The five-play march began at the EC 25, and was highlighted by Taylor's 14-yard completion to Sanders on first-and-15 from the EC 20, Taylor's 10-yard run to the EC 44, and Taylor's 15-yard pass completion to Radariuos Owens to the Northeast 41.

The EC offense, which had 20 first downs, had 351 yards passing and 155 yards rushing for a 506 total.

Sanders led EC receivers with 100 yards on three catches. McMillan had 81 yards on five grabs. Hughes had four catches for 62 yards.

Northeast had 22 first

MERIDIAN STAR _____

SHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

OTT COUNTY TIMES _____

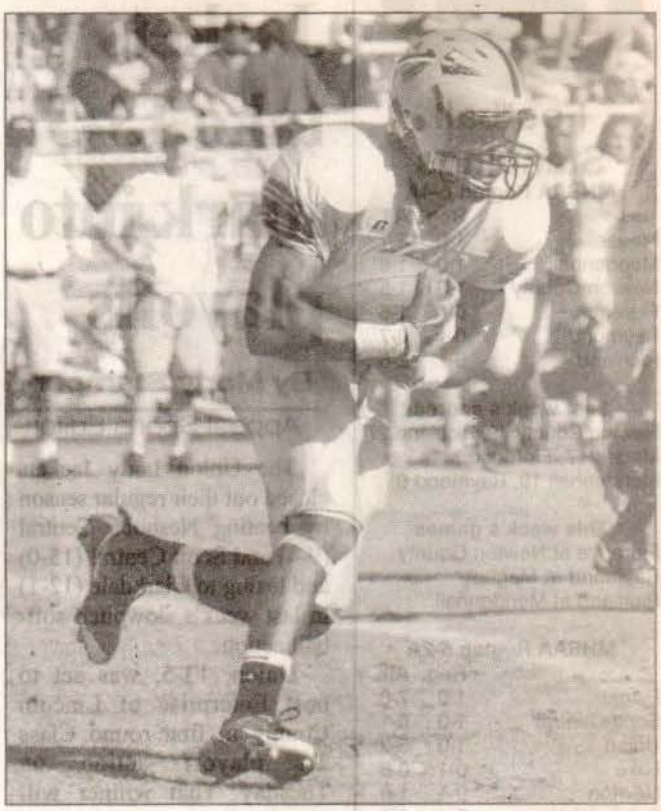
NSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

(Continued from previous page)

October 5, 200

win over Northeast



EC's Dontice Sanders carries in the first half of the Warriors' 34-28 overtime win over Northeast Saturday in Decatur.

Photo by Marty Stamper

downs and amassed 313 yards rushing and 139 passing for a 452 total.

Quarterback Clint Wilson was the Tigers' leading passer as he completed 15-of-23 passes for 126 yards.

Cannon was the workhorse for Northeast, compiling 237 yards on 33 carries and four touchdowns.

WEEK OF October 5, 2009

Junior College Football

PHOTO BY PAULA MERRITT / THE MERIDIAN STAR

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

NEWTON COUNTY APPEAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON ∅

MERIDIAN STAR ✓

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

(Continued from previous page)

October 5, 200

RUNNING ROOM

East Central Community College's Emmanuel Taylor finds running room as he sprints for a Warrior touchdown Saturday against Northeast Mississippi Community College.

ECCC Warriors set to face nationally ranked Gulf Coast

from school reports

When sixth-ranked Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College invades Bailey Stadium tonight for a MACJC South Division showdown with East Central Community College, the Warriors will no doubt have last year's close battle on their minds.

Gulf Coast at ECCC

6:30 p.m.
Bailey Stadium

East Central came within three points of upsetting the then-No. 15 Bulldogs and spoiling homecoming activities on the Perkinston campus. But the Warriors — who rallied from a 24-7 halftime deficit — simply ran out of time and the eventual state champions held on for a 38-35 decision.

Current EC quarterback Emmanuel Taylor and all-purpose performer Maurice Langston — now at Mississippi State University — played key roles in the near upset. Taylor threw for three scores and Langston, a former standout at Northeast Lauderdale High School, was also credited with three scores, one of which came on a 99-yard kickoff return.

Interim Warrior head coach Brian Anderson, whose main responsibility last season was serving as offensive coordinator, said the situation going into last year's contest is very similar to this week's challenge, which gets underway at 6:30 p.m.

"We were really playing well prior to the Gulf Coast game," said Anderson, referring to Warriors' 38-7 thumping of Northeast Mississippi Community College the previous week, spoiling the Tigers' homecoming. "Even though the odds were against us last year, we knew that we were capable of beating Gulf Coast and almost did. We just ran out of time."

However, Anderson knows that his Warriors, who improved to 2-4 overall after last week's 34-28 homecoming overtime victory against Northeast, will face an even greater task against this year's Gulf Coast squad, which sports a 5-1 overall mark and 3-0 slate in league play. The Warriors are winless in the division following three matchups.

"Gulf Coast has another great team, as evidenced by their national recognition and record," Anderson said. "We obviously have a tremendous challenge before us...and we look forward

See **ECCC** on page B3

WEEK OF October 5, 2009

ECCC from page B1

to that challenge."

The Bulldogs, who have won the past two state titles and were co-national champs in 2007, have wins against Itawamba (63-9), Southwest (33-16), East Mississippi (43-26), Pearl River (38-28) and Copiah-Lincoln (38-14). Gulf Coast's only loss is to Northwest (30-25) in the season opener.

East Central's other victory this season came against Holmes (27-24). The Warriors fell to Coahoma (32-31), Hinds (30-7), Jones County (32-10) and Southwest (21-20).

Both Gulf Coast and EC squads are experiencing success on offense.

The Bulldogs have the nation's top rushing offense and the Warriors are also highly rated in the same category.

Gulf Coast leads the state and nation in team rushing, with a 327-yard average per game. Sophomore running back Vick Ballard leads the state in rushing and is ranked third nationally, averaging 169.2 yards per contest. Ballard has accumulated 1,015 yards on 157 carries — a 6.5-yard average — and has scored nine touchdowns.

East Central's rushing offense is rated fourth in the state and 15th nationally. Sophomore Derrick Cade continues to be the team's leading rusher, averaging 82.3 yards per contest. Cade is rated fifth in the state and 26th nationally. He has rushed for 494 yards on 91 carries, a 5.4-yard average per carry. He has scored two touchdowns. Taylor is also among the state's top rushers, accumulating 469 yards on 66 carries, a 7.1-yard per carry. He is averaging 78.2 yards per contest and has two rushing touchdowns.

Taylor also continues to be ranked among the top passers in the state and nation. He is ranked fourth in the state and ninth nationally by completing 104 of 182 passes for 1394 yards and 11 touchdowns. His top receiver is Antonio Hughes, who has 26 grabs for 385 yards and two touchdowns. Hughes is ranked fifth in the state and 18th nationally.

Bulldog quarterback Greg Jenkins is ranked 20th nationally and eighth in the state. Jenkins has completed 67 of 108 passes for 972 yards and 11 touchdowns. He is averaging 162 yards passing per game. Kevin Bolden of Ocean Springs leads the Bulldogs in receptions with 30 catches for 547 yards and eight touchdowns. Bolden is ranked third in the state and 10th nationally.

Overall, the Gulf Coast offense is ranked third nationally and second in the state, averaging 492.5 yards per game. EC's offense is ranked fifth in state and ninth nationally, with a 426.6-yard average.

Bulldog Bo Brian leads the state in individual scoring among kickers with 50 points. He has made all 29 PATs and connected on seven of 11 field goal attempts. EC's Chad Mangum is ranked fourth with 27 points. Mangum has made 15 of 16 PATs, and has connected on four of nine field goals.

Defensively, the Bulldogs have the state's top unit defending the rush, allowing just 54 yards per contest. The Gulf Coast rushing defense is ranked fifth nationally.

East Central's rushing defense is ranked near the bottom, allowing 184.5 yards per game.

In pass defense, the Warriors are rated seventh statewide, allowing 180.8-yards per game. The Bulldogs are last in the same category and are giving up 244 yards per game.

Overall, the Gulf Coast defense is ranked third in the state by allowing 298 yards per game. EC is rated last in overall defense, giving up 365.3 yards per contest.

Warrior linebacker Octavious Gilbert is ranked third among the state's top tacklers with 42 solo stops and 19 assists.

EC defensive back Elijah Tanksley of Meridian is second in interceptions with six. Teammate CJ Estelle is tied for fourth with three picks. Estelle is also 10th in kickoff returns. He has 11 returns for 253 yards, a 23-yard average.

The ECCC/Gulf Coast game has been designated as "Black Out Bailey Stadium Night," and Warrior fans are encouraged to wear black for the division battle. The contest is also "Be Our Guest Night" for area high school students. The special guests will be admitted free to the game and have the opportunity to win various door prizes. One district senior will be selected to kick a field goal for free tuition for the 2010 fall semester.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

NEWTON COUNTY APPEAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

MERIDIAN STAR ✓

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF October 5, 2009

ECCC Warriors

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Many in the homecoming crowd thought the "fat lady had already sung" and began leaving Bailey Stadium when Northeast (2-4) stretched its lead to 28-14 with 3:49 remaining.

But Taylor and the Warriors had other ideas and quickly marched 65 yards in just six plays, capped by Taylor's 43-yard TD pass to Jeremy Harvey with 1:29 left. A key play during the scoring drive included Taylor's 14-yard pass to McMillan on third and seven, which gave EC possession on the Tiger 48.

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NESHOBA DEMOCRAT ✓

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL ✓

CLARION-LEDGER

(Continued from previous page)

October 5, 2009

rally to shock Northeast 34-28 in OT

Members of the 2009 Homecoming Court at East Central Community College in Decatur include (front row, from left) freshman maids Breanna Foley of Newton, Sarah Breland of Philadelphia, Celia Boggan of Decatur and Alexis Young of Forest; queen Reshetta Benton of Forest, maid-of-honor Hannah Lee of Philadelphia and sophomore maids Kimberly Blackwell, Anna Fulton and Alison Lowery, all of Louisville; and (back row, from left) escorts Teddy Bloodsaw of Forest, Nathan Calvert of Louisville, Justin Gates of Decatur, Randall Hudson of Forest, Steve Edwards Jr. of Newton, Allen Johnson of Lena, Michael Hardy of Philadelphia, Brandon Kennedy of Union and Matt Woods of Philadelphia. (EC Photo)

who had gotten behind the Tiger defense in the end zone. Chad Mangum booted his fourth PAT and sent the contest into overtime.

Northeast went on offense first from the 25-yard line in the extra period and quickly moved to the 13. However, the Warrior defense stiffened and forced the Tigers to attempt a 30-yard field goal but Tyler Turner's kick was wide right, and set the stage for the Warrior's game-winning score.

WARRIORS HOST GULF COAST

East Central returns to MACJC South Division action this week to host nationally-ranked Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College Thursday night.

Warrior fans are asked to wear black for the MACJC South Division battle, which begins at 6:30 p.m. in Bailey Stadium.

The Bulldogs, ranked sixth in the latest NJCAA poll, defeated Copiah-Lincoln Community College 38-14 last week to improve to 5-1 overall and 3-0 in league competition.

Gulf Coast held on to clip East Central 38-35 last year in Perkinston. The Warriors have not defeated the Bulldogs since a 28-21 decision in 2002.

WEEK OF October 5, 2009

ECCC Warriors rally to shock Northeast 34-28 in overtime

SPECIAL TO THE TIMES

DECATUR — Emmanuel Taylor's 25-yard touchdown pass to Antonio Hughes in overtime completed a stellar performance for the sophomore quarterback and provided East Central Community College with a stunning 34-28 homecoming victory over Northeast Mississippi Community College on Saturday.

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The Tigers put the first points on the scoreboard when speedster Jeremy Cannon of New Albany tallied the first of his four touchdowns on a 6-yard run with 5:41 left in the first period. Turner, who hails from Horn Lake, made the first of his PATs to give Northeast a 7-0 lead.

East Central tied the contest on the ensuing possession when Taylor found the end zone on his 36-yard scamper, capping a 63-yard, five-play drive with 2:43 remaining in the initial period. A key play during the brief drive was Taylor's 15-yard run to the Northeast 46.

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CARTHAGINIAN _____

NEWTON COUNTY APPEAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES ✓

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF October 12, 2001

Gulf Coast CC trounces ECCC Warriors, 49-19

Midway through the third quarter, East Central Community College trailed 21-13 to visiting Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College, but the Warriors could get no closer as the nationally ranked Bulldogs pulled away for a decisive 49-19 victory Thursday night.

East Central, which fell to 2-5 overall and 0-4 in the MACJC South Division, was once again led offensively by sophomore quarterback Emmanuel Taylor, recognized as one of the state's top passers.

Taylor, a product of Blakely, Ga., completed 14 of 23 passes for 138 yards and one score – a 14-yard strike to receiver Radarius Owens of Quitman, which tied the division matchup at 7-7 early in the second period. Owens led EC in receiving with six catches for 63 yards.

Taylor also scored on an impressive 46-yard run with about eight minutes left on the contest for the Warriors' final score. He led EC in rushing with 17 carries for 133 yards.

Next up for the Warriors is a division battle with Copiah-Lincoln Community College Thursday night. Kickoff is set for 7 p.m. on the Wesson campus. The Wolves are 3-3 overall and 1-2 in division play prior to their homecoming contest with Pearl River Community College Saturday.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN VX2

NEWTON COUNTY APPEAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

(Continued from previous page)

October 12, 2009

trounced by Gulf Coast, 49-19

Members of the 2009 East Central Community College football team from Newton County include (kneeling from left) linebackers Guy Holden (5-9, 200) of Newton County and Quadarius Wallace (5-10, 195) of Union; running back Roderick Hawkins (5-9, 180), of Union; defensive back Gabe Loper (6-3, 180) of Newton County; and linebacker Rob Roberts (5-9, 190) of Newton County Academy; and (standing) offensive linemen Chucky Curry (6-6, 310) of Newton and Fred Smith (6-1, 280) of Newton County; wide receiver Octavious Wallace (6-1, 170) of Union; and running back Rod Toole (5-9, 180) and defensive lineman John McDougle (5-10, 230), both of Newton County.

EC photo

for good at 13-7 midway in the second period. He also tallied on runs of 2, 11, 1, and 3 yards.

The Bulldogs, who own the state's top rushing offense prior to the Warrior matchup, also got productive performances from freshmen Mark Seymour, who had 98 yards on 11 carries, and Eric Willis, who was credited with 92 yards on five carries. In all, the Bulldog rushing attack compiled 461 yards on 46 attempts.

Quarterback Chris Jenkins also scored for Gulf Coast. The first tally came on a 52-yard jaunt midway in the opening stanza, which gave the Bulldogs a 7-0 lead. He later connected with receiver Kelvin Bolden on a 21-yard TD strike near the end of the third quarter, which stretched the Bulldog lead to 35-13.

Next up for the Warriors is a division battle with Copiah-Lincoln Community College Thursday night. Kickoff is set for 7 p.m. on the Wesson campus. The Wolves are 4-3 overall and 2-2 in division play after beating Pearl River Community College 42-25 Saturday.

WEEK OF October 12, 2009

MACJC SOUTH FOOTBALL

CO-LIN 27, EAST CENTRAL 13

Wolves shut down Warriors

from staff reports

East Central Community College traded scores early Thursday night at Copiah-Lincoln.

However, the Warriors weren't able to sustain the early momentum and fell on the road 27-13 in MACJC South Division play.

East Central, which fell to 2-6, 0-5 in the South, grabbed an early lead against the Wolves.

Warriors defensive back Ken Griffin scooped up a Co-Lin fumble and returned it 20 yards for a score with 8:13 remaining in the opening quarter. East Central led 7-0 after the Chad Mangum PAT.

The lead was short-lived. The Wolves, who improved to 5-3 and 3-2 in the South, got an 86-yard touchdown from Brad Fuller on the ensuing kickoff and Tyler Fitzgerald's PAT knotted the game at 7 with 7:57 remaining in the first.

The Wolves would grab their first lead of the game in the early moments of the second quarter when Titus Mobley broke free for a 57-yard scoring run.

The Warriors would strike back 20 seconds later when Emmanuel Taylor hit Jeremy Harvey on a 60-yard pass play and the game was tied at 13.

Co-Lin, though, would add two more scores before halftime for the win.

Taylor completed 14 of 32 passes for 249 yards for East Central. He threw one touchdown and two interceptions.

The Warriors, who finish the season Thursday at home against Pearl River, got 33 yards rushing on seven carries from Dontice Sanders.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

NEWTON COUNTY APPEAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

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NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF October 12, 2009

Warriors

from school reports

Midway through the third quarter, East Central Community College trailed 21-13 to visiting Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College, but the Warriors could get no closer as the nationally-ranked Bulldogs pulled away for a decisive 49-19 victory Thursday night in Decatur.

East Central, which fell to 2-5 overall and 0-4 in the MACJC South Division, was once again led offensively by sophomore quarterback Emmanuel Taylor, recognized as one of the state's top passers.

Taylor, a product of Early County High School in Blakely, Ga., completed 14-of-23 passes for 138 yards and one score — a 14-yard strike to receiver Radarius Owens which tied the division matchup at 7-7 early in the second period. Owens led EC in receiving with six catches for 63 yards.

Taylor also scored on an impressive 46-yard run with about eight minutes left on the contest for the Warriors' final score. Taylor led EC in rushing with 17 carries for 133 yards.

Sophomore running back Derrick Cade, who was one of the state's top rushers prior to being hampered with an ankle injury, saw limited action against the Bulldogs but tallied on a 1-yard plunge that brought EC within eight points in the third period.

The sixth-ranked Bulldogs, who improved to 6-1 and 4-0, were led by running back Vick Ballard who clearly earned his recognition as the state's top rusher. The Pascagoula native zipped through the Warrior defense for 204 yards on 21 carries and five touchdowns. His most impressive score came on a 49-yard dash that gave the Bulldogs the lead

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

NEWTON COUNTY APPEAL ✓

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

(Continued from previous page)

October 14, 2009

Co-Lin; host PRCC

Reggie Hunt intercepted Taylor's pass and crossed the goal line from 25 yards out. Fitzgerald added the PAT.

EC marched to the Co-Lin 24 on the ensuing possession and during a driving rain storm, but the drive stalled when Taylor was sacked for a 9-yard loss on fourth-and-9.

The Warriors also had scoring threats in the second half but failed to capitalize on those opportunities.

The first missed opportunity occurred when the Warriors received the second-half kickoff and drove from its 19 to the Co-Lin 16, only to lose possession on a fumble.

Highlights during the 65-yard drive included Taylor's 16-yard pass to Harvey to the Co-Lin 49, followed by Taylor's 14-yard strike to receiver Radarious Owens of Quitman to the Wolves' 39-yard-line.

On EC's next possession — which began at the Co-Lin 41 following a short Fitzgerald punt — Taylor connected with receiver Antonio Ricks on a 31-yard pass to the Wolves' 10. Derrick Cade's 5-yard burst moved the pigskin to the 5, but the Warriors could not overcome a high snap from center which moved possession back to the 16.

The fourth quarter began with EC again in Wolf territory, but the drive stalled on the 24.

The Warrior defense kept Co-Lin from adding to its lead when Mobley was gang tackled on fourth-and-goal from the 2. The Wolves had gained possession at the EC 10 following an interception by Jordan Hunt.

For EC, Taylor completed 13-of-28 passes for 254 yards and one touchdown. He also had two interceptions. Harvey was the top receiver with four catches for 103 yards, including the 60-yard TD reception.

EC will wrap up the 2009 campaign by hosting Pearl River Community Thursday night. Kickoff is set for 6:30.

The Wildcats are 5-3 overall and 2-3 in division play following a 43-7 rout of Southwest Mississippi Community College Saturday in Poplarville.

WEEK OF October 19, 2009

Warriors lose 27-13 at

from school reports

A rain-soaked field, missed opportunities and Copiah-Lincoln Community College's highly-rated defense were too much to overcome for East Central Community College's potent rushing attack and the Warriors dropped a 27-13 MACJC South Division decision Thursday night in Wesson.

With the loss, East Central falls to 2-6 overall and 0-5 in league action under interim head coach Brian Anderson.

The Wolves improved to 5-3 and 3-2.

It was the Warrior defense that actually provided for the first points of the night, as defensive back Ken Griffin scooped up teammate C.J. Estelle's fumble following an interception and returned the pigskin 11 yards to pay dirt with 8:13 left in the first period. Chad Mangum added the extra point.

Estelle collected his fourth pick of the season as Co-Lin quarterback Percy Turner attempted a pass from his own end zone. The poor field position for Co-Lin was attributed to Mangum's perfectly placed 35-yard punt on the wet playing field with no return.

The 7-0 Warrior lead was short-lived, however, as speedy return specialist Fred Fuller received Mangum's kickoff and raced 86 yards for the game-tying score following Tyler Fitzgerald's PAT.

Co-Lin would later grab its first lead on Titus Mobley's 65-yard TD run early in second-period action. The PAT was missed.

EC responded by tallying on its first play following the Co-Lin score, when quarterback Emmanuel Taylor hooked up with Jeremy Harvey on a 60-yard pass completion. The PAT was blocked and the score was deadlocked again at 13-13.

The Wolves took the lead for good on their next possession on Turner's 20-yard TD pass to receiver Carlton Ollie, capping a six-play, 63-yard drive. Fitzgerald's PAT made it 20-13.

Co-Lin put the final points on the scoreboard when defensive back

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

NEWTON COUNTY APPEAL ✓

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

JUNIOR COLLEGE FOOTBALL
PEARL RIVER AT EAST CENTRAL

WEEK OF october 19, 2009

Warriors hoping fo repeat of 2008 fina

from school reports

With the 2009 season about to end for the East Central Community College football squad, interim coach Brian Anderson is hoping for a similar finish to 2008.

Last year East Central shocked the state's community/junior college world by upsetting nationally-ranked and playoff-bound Pearl River Community College 44-38 in double overtime. The Wildcats later fell to Gulf Coast for the 2008 state title and finished 8-3.

The Warriors won three of their four remaining games in 2008 to finish 4-5 under former coach Steve Cheatham. East Central came close to pulling off another shocker earlier against Gulf Coast, but the Bulldogs held on for a 38-35 decision on the Perkinston campus.

Anderson, who completed his first season as offensive coordinator in 2008 and has dual responsibilities this year, said upsetting the Wildcats Thursday night will be a "tremendous challenge," but he is confident the Warriors will be ready to play when the MACJC South Division battle gets under way at 6:30 p.m. in Decatur.

"We obviously want to finish the season on a positive note and by beating Pearl River we will accomplish that goal," said Anderson, whose Warriors bring a 2-6 overall record into the season finale. "We know they will be thinking abou year and are also disappoi about not making the play this year. They will no do want to finish the season beating us....it should be great game."

In addition to ending tl season with a victory, the riors are seeking their fir sion win in 2009. Division losses are to Copiah-Linc (27-13), Gulf Coast (49-19 Southwest (21-20), Jones County (32-10) and Hinds 7).

"We are very disappoi with our division record," Anderson added, "and ho fully we will get our first sion win against Pearl Riv We've had a good week o tice and I'm confident our will play well."

The Wildcats, who wer ranked as high as third n ally and continue to recei votes as one of the nation squads, improved to 5-3 o and 2-3 in the division aft their 43-7 thrashing of ho coming victim Southwest sissippi Community Colle Saturday afternoon.

Pearl River has also recorded victories agains Holmes (45-7), Northeast 23), Northwest (38-35), a Hinds (45-3). Losses are t Coast (38-28), Jones Cou (27-10) and Copiah-Linco 25).

The Wildcats are led b

See **Warriors** on page B3

PAULA MERRITT/THE MERID

MAKING THE CATCH

East Central Community College's Antonio Hughes hauls in a reception as he fights off a Northeast Mississippi defender Oc

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

NEWTON COUNTY APPEAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

MERIDIAN STAR ✓

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF October 29, 2009

PHOTO BY PAULA MERRITT / THE MERIDIAN STAR

CATCH

East Central Community College's Gabe Loper picks off a pass in the end zone against Pearl River Community College's Sam Robinson Thursday night in Decatur. The play was called back on a defensive penalty.

Pearl River downs ECCC in overtime

From staff reports

East Central Community College's late rally fell just shy Thursday night at Bailey Stadium.

The Warriors scored 10 points in the final three minutes of regulation to force overtime only to fall to visiting Pearl River 30-27 when Emmanuel Taylor's fourth-and-1 pass fell incomplete in the end zone during the first overtime period. Pearl River finishes the season 6-3, 3-3 in the MACJC South Divison, while East Central ends 2-7, 0-6.

Taylor, who threw for 386 yards on 18-of-40 passing, spearheaded the Warriors' comeback in the fourth quarter. The sophomore connected from 41 yards out with Antonio Ricks with 2:40 left in the game to pull ECCC within 27-22. The duo then hooked up for the 2-point conversion.

Then, as time expired, freshman kicker Chad Mangum nailed a 32-yard field goal to knot the game at 27. It was Mangum's fourth field goal of the game as he connected from 23, 32, 22 and 32 yards.

Pearl River, though, answered to open the overtime session when Reggie Bradley hit a 37-yard field goal on the Wildcat's possession. The Warriors, following a pair of sacks, faced a third-and-22 when Taylor hit Fabian Johnson on a 22-yard pass. Taylor's next pass, though, fell incomplete to end it.

See ECCC on page B5

ECCC from page B1

Following a scoreless first quarter, the Warriors appeared to be taking control just before the half. Following a 13-yard scoring pass from Taylor to Jeremy Harvey early in the second quarter, East Central was driving for another score when Pearl River's Reggie Bailey scooped up a fumble and rumbled 92 yards for a score with 1:03 remaining in the half.

The teams traded field goals to open the third quarter before Emil Jones hit Desmond Ratliff from 15 yards out to give the Wildcats their first lead at 17-10. Following Mangum's second field goal with 9 seconds remaining in the third quarter, Pearl River scored in the first minute of the fourth when Jones and Ratliff connected on a 33-yard score.

The teams again traded field goals before the Warriors launched their late rally.

Johnson (7 for 109), Harvey (6 for 100) and Antonio Hughes (3 for 103) all hauled in more than 100 yards receiving, as East Central totaled 499 yards of offense. Pearl River was limited to 261 yards of offense.

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

MERIDIAN STAR ✓

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

Warriors fall to PRC in overtime

from school reports

A gallant effort fell short for the East Central Community College Warriors, who scored 11 points in the final minutes of regulation to force overtime, but fell 30-27 to visiting Pearl River Community College in the season finale Thursday night at Decatur.

East Central, which outgained Pearl River 499-261, had a chance to claim a second-straight win over the Wildcats, but quarterback Emmanuel Taylor's pass into end zone fell incomplete on fourth-and-1 from the PRC 16. Taylor's 22-yard completion to receiver Fabian Johnson on third down provided EC with the fourth-and-1 situation.

Pearl River had first possession in the extra period and took a three-point lead on Rickey Bradley's 37-yard field goal. The Wildcats completed the season at 6-3 overall and 3-3 in the MACJC South Division.

The Warriors, who finished 2-7 overall and 0-6 in league play under interim head coach Brian Anderson, trailed 27-16 with 3:37 left in regulation.

But Taylor quickly erased the deficit by connecting with receiver Antonio Ricks on a 41-yard touchdown strike with 2:40 remaining, followed by a successful two-point conversion featuring the same combination.

Chad Mangum sent the division battle into overtime with his 32-yard field goal as time expired.

Taylor, who obviously did not let gusty winds throughout the contest hamper his passing efforts, finished the night by completing 18-of-40

WEEK OF October 26, 2009

NEWTON COUNTY APPEAL ✓

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

October 26, 2007

East Central running back Dontice Sanders (19) rambles for good yardage against Pearl River Thursday night. ECCC lost 30-27 in overtime to finish with a 2-7 record. The Warriors were last in the MACJC South Division at 0-6.

ECCC photo

passes for 386 yards and two scores. Three of his targets had over 100 yards in receptions — Johnson (seven for 109), Jeremy Harvey (six for 100), and Antonio Hughes (three for 103).

Taylor's first touchdown pass — a 13-yarder to Harvey early in second period action — gave EC an early 7-0 lead and capped an 11-play, 74-yard drive. Mangum made the PAT.

The Warriors appeared to be on their way to a two-touchdown advantage just before halftime, but Wildcat linebacker Reggie Bailey of Picayune scooped up a fumble by EC running back Dontice Sanders and raced 92 yards to pay dirt with 1:03 left. Bradley's first of three PATs tied the score at 7-7. Sanders had one of his best nights rushing and finished with 110 yards on 18 carries.

EC had begun the drive from its 20 after receiving possession following C.J. Estelle's interception of a Wildcat pass in the end zone with 5:16 left before the break.

The Warriors regained the lead at 10-7 early in third period on Mangum's 23-yard field goal. EC had taken possession on its 20 and reached the Pearl River 2, but could get no closer and settled for the three-pointer.

Pearl River answered with Bradley's 27-yard field goal with 6:41 left in the third stanza, which deadlocked the score again at 10-10.

The Wildcats took their first lead a couple of minutes later on a 15-yard touchdown strike from quarterback Emil Jones to receiver Desmond Ratliff. The tally capped a short 26-yard march set up when Taylor's pass was tipped and picked off by linebacker Casey Smith.

EC cut into the Wildcat lead on its next possession when Mangum split the uprights on a 32-yard field goal with nine seconds left in the third stanza. EC had driven from its 32 to the Wildcat 12, when the march stalled.

Pearl River later stretched its lead to 24-13 on its next possession on Jones' 33-yard scoring pass to Ratliff early in the fourth period. The 49-yard drive was aided by a personal foul against the Warriors, who ended the night with over 100 yards in penalties.

EC responded to the Pearl River score by marching from its 49 to the Pearl River 4, but had to settle on a 22-yard field goal by Mangum to cut the deficit at 24-16.

The Wildcats took the ensuing kickoff and drove from their 40 to the EC 3. But the Warrior defense stiffened and forced the Wildcats to also settle for a short field goal — a 22-yarder by Bradley with 3:37 left, which gave the visitors a 27-16 advantage.

EC scored the next 11 points and sent the game into overtime.

WEEK OF November 16, 2009

ECCC looking for head football coach

East Central Community College in Decatur is advertising for a head football coach, announced ECCC President Dr. Phil A. Sutphin.

from school reports

Dr. Sutphin said the application deadline is November 24. The successful candidate will be selected at the Board of Trustees meeting on December 15.

Brian Anderson, who served as interim head coach this past season, is among candidates expected to apply for the position.

The Warriors finished 2-7 overall in 2009, 0-6 in the MACJC South Division.

For more information, contact Chris Harris, ECCC athletic director, 601-635-6401. The e-mail address is charris@eccc.edu.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

NEWTON COUNTY APPEAL ✓

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

ECCC Sophomore Warriors Honored

Sophomores on the 2009 East Central Community College football squad were recognized prior to the season finale with Pearl River Community College. The honorees were joined by parents and other family members for the special presentation. Sophomore Warriors and their respective high schools include (from left) running back Derrick Cade (8), Tuscaloosa (Ala.) Central; defensive linemen Jeremy Dillon (13) of Forrest County AHS and Kyle Donald (60) of Louisville; defensive back Demario Eichelberger (5), also of Louisville; defensive backs C.J. Estelle (12) of Childersburg (Ala.) High School and Preston Felder (24) of Meridian; offensive lineman Jared Fleming (70), Louisville; defensive back Ken Griffin (1), Philadelphia; linebacker Guy Holden (4), Newton County; wide receivers Tevin Houston (2) of Philadelphia and Antonio Hughes (11) of Morton; offensive lineman Will McBeth (75), Leake Academy; wide receiver Antonio Ricks (3), Carthage; defensive back Elijah Tanksley (23), Meridian; quarterback Emmanuel Taylor (9), Early County, Blakely, Ga.; linebackers Jordan Vance (44) of Trinity Episcopal in Natchez, Quadarius Wallace (15) of Union and Chris Watson (34) of West Lauderdale; and offensive lineman Damion Young (62 of Pelahatchie. ECCC finished 2-7 overall and 0-6 in the MACJC South Division under interim head coach Brian Anderson.

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CLARION-LEDGER ___

WEEK OF November 23, 2009

WEEK OF November 23, 2009

SUBMITTED PHOTO

WARRIOR PRIDE

"Warrior Pride" took first-place honors in the intramural flag football competition held at East Central Community College in Decatur. Team members include (kneeling from left) Keshawn Harrison, Decatur; Dee Martin, Rod Martin and Justin Houston, all of Meridian; and Josh Wilson, Decatur; and (standing from left) Demarco Thompson and Tabbarin Graham, both of Decatur; Ken Dubose, Meridian; and Travis Thompson, Kalvin Smith and Ladarius Gallaspy, all of Decatur.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

NEWTON COUNTY APPEAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

MERIDIAN STAR ✓

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF December 1, 2009

ECCC Warrior from Morton Named to All-Star Squad

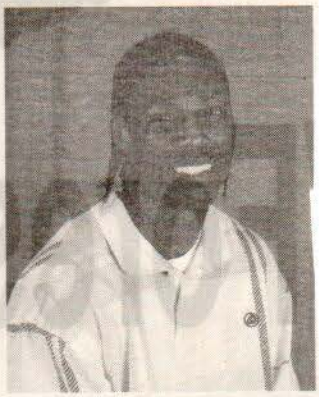
East Central Community College will be well represented in the 36th Annual Mississippi Association of Community and Junior Colleges (MACJC) All-Star Classic scheduled Saturday, Dec. 5, 2009, at Northeast Mississippi Community College in Booneville. Kickoff is set for 1 p.m. at Keenum Stadium.

Five Warriors are members of the South squad and include wide receiver Antonio Hughes (6-1,185) of Morton, defensive back Elijah Tanksley (6-3, 195) of Meridian, offensive lineman Jared Fleming (6-5, 290) of Louisville, defensive back Ken Griffin (6', 190) of Philadelphia and linebacker Quadarius Wallace (5-10, 195) of Union. Thirty-three players are selected for the South and North teams.

Hinds Community College head coach Gene Murphy and his staff will direct the South squad and leading the North team will be Jay Miller and his assistants from Mississippi Delta Community College.

The South won last year's battle by a 16-14 margin.

For more information contact Ricky Ford, NEMC athletic director/women's head basketball coach, 662-720-7302 or e-mail him, rgford@nemcc.edu.



Antonio Hughes

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

NEWTON COUNTY APPEAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON ✓

MERIDIAN STAR _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF 12-21-09

ECCC officially

Brian Anderson was "officially" selected East Central Community College's head football coach today during the December meeting of the College's Board of Trustees meeting on the Decatur campus.

The 36-year-old Anderson, who served the position on an interim basis this past fall following the sudden resignation of Steve Cheatham in mid July, said he "is very proud" to be chosen head coach.

"As I said when I was selected on an interim basis, it's a great opportunity, a privilege and an honor to serve as East Central's head football coach," said the Warrior head mentor. "I certainly appreciate the confidence shown in me by Dr. Sutphin and the College's Board of Trustees.

"I'm very excited about being head coach and look forward to continuing our efforts to help build the best football program possible at East Central Community College."

ECCC President Dr. Phil Sutphin said Anderson, one of three candidates interviewed for the head coach position, "has the presence, energy and enthusiasm to move the College's football program to a respectable level over the next decade.

ANDERSON

During the current year, the level of team discipline and the results in the classroom have demonstrated a commitment to the student athlete."

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN ✓

NEWTON COUNTY APPEAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

MERIDIAN STAR ✓

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT ✓

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

week of 12-21-09

Continued from previous page

names Anderson coach

Dr. Sutphin further stated his selection of Coach Anderson "is driven by my desire to build on the foundation that has begun over the last two years and to reinforce the current recruitment process that has continued despite the uncertainty of the search process."

The other candidates were Freeman Horton, head football coach and athletic director at Coahoma Community College in Clarksdale, and Brad Peterson, head football coach at Louisville High School.

Anderson joined the ECCC staff in 2008 as offensive coordinator, running backs and quarterbacks coach, and continued to serve in that capacity when he was named interim coach.

The Warriors had one of the state's top offensive units this past season, despite its 2-7 record. East Central finished third overall by averaging 423.6 yards per game. The rushing offense was also ranked third with a 179.6-yard average. The Warrior passing attack was fourth and averaged 249 yards per contest.

Prior to joining the ECCC staff, Anderson served as head football coach at Grenada High School for one season (2007-08) and posted a 5-6 record. He led the Philadelphia High School football program from 2004-07, amassing an overall 27-8 mark.

Prior to beginning his coaching career, Anderson was a football standout at Mississippi State University, where he was the starting center on the 1992-95 Bulldog squads and earned honorable mention All-American honors. He was twice named All-Southeastern Conference and received various other awards.

A native of Prattville, Ala., Anderson is married to the former Lea Ann Allen of Philadelphia. They have two children, Brady and Eli.

WEEK OF 12-21-09

ECCC removes interim tag from Anderson

By Marty Stamper
Appeal Sports Editor

East Central Community College concluded its search for a new head football coach by simply removing the word "interim" from that of 2009 coach Brian Anderson.

Brian Anderson

Anderson joined the EC staff in 2008 as offensive coordinator, running backs and quarterbacks coach, and was named interim head coach in mid-July following the sudden resignation of Steve Cheatham due to health concerns.

EC president Dr. Phil Sutphin nominated Anderson, 36, for the position and the Board of Trustees rubber stamped the choice in its December 15 meeting.

According to a press release, Sutphin said that Anderson "has the presence, energy and enthusiasm to move the College's football program to a respectable level over the next decade. During the current year, the level of team discipline and the results in the classroom have demonstrated a commitment to the student athlete."

Dr. Sutphin further stated his selection of Anderson "is driven by my desire to build on the foundation that has begun over the last two years and to reinforce the current recruitment process that has continued despite the uncertainty of the search process."

The other two candidates interviewed were Lake native and Coahoma Community College head football coach and athletics director Freeman Horton and Louisville High School head coach Brad Peterson.

Anderson was elated when informed of the decision. "I am very proud to be chosen head coach.

"As I said when I was selected on an interim basis, it's a great opportunity, a privilege and an honor to serve as East Central's head football coach. I certainly appreciate the confidence

Continued on 5C...
See Anderson...

Anderson...

Continued from 4C...

shown in me by Dr. Sutphin and the College's Board of Trustees. I'm very excited about being head coach and look forward to continuing our efforts to help build the best football program possible at East Central Community College."

This past fall was EC's eighth straight losing season. The Warriors finished 2-7 overall under Anderson in 2009 and their 0-6 South Division record left them in the league cellar.

Anderson intends to recruit EC's five-county district hard when it comes to filling his roster.

"My approach is probably going to be a little different than it has been in the past," Anderson said. "The other day we offered 31 players within our district. The previous year we offered 15. We've got to do a better job of getting the best players in our district. That's first and foremost.

"Recruiting out of district and out of state boils down to connections and people you know and that trust you and want to send players to you.

"We've got several Division I signees coming in at Christmas from South Carolina and Marshall, and a couple of other out-of-state recruits that are going to be big for us.

"Recruiting is the name of the game. You've constantly got to be looking for players and also have a staff with a shared vision."

Anderson was told in the process he would be allowed to choose his assistants.

"I've had the opportunity to have been here and see the things you think can be improved upon," Anderson said. "Planning is fun to me. Organization is fun to me."

Anderson hopes to use some of what he learned playing center at Mississippi State from 1992-95 under coach Jackie Sherrill to turn the Warriors' fortunes around.

"He always carried around that little notebook and was constantly writing things," Anderson said. "You've got to coach each play each day. Preparation and organization is something that I'm constantly trying to better myself.

"I'm excited about our plan and getting the opportunity to put it in place."

APPEAL ✓
SPIRIT OF MORTON _____
MERIDIAN STAR _____
NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____
SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____
WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____
CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF 12-28-09

EAST CENTRAL NAMES ALL-STARS

ECCC PHOTO

Representing East Central Community College in the 36th Annual MACJC All-Star Football Classic were (from left) wide receiver Antonio Hughes of Morton, linebacker Quadarius Wallace of Union, and defensive backs Ken Griffin of Philadelphia and Elijah Tanksley of Meridian, all members of the victorious South squad which won a 28-0 shutout over the North squad.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

NEWTON COUNTY APPEAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES ✓

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF 12-28-09

Anderson named ECCC

Former Forest coach was a candidate

FROM STAFF REPORTS

DECATUR — Brian Anderson was "officially" selected East Central Community College's head football coach earlier this month during the December meeting of the College's Board of Trustees meeting on the Decatur campus.

Anderson, 36, who served in the position on an interim basis this past fall following the sudden resignation of Steve Cheatham in mid July, said during an afternoon news conference on December 15 that he "is very proud" to be chosen head coach.

"As I said when I was selected on an interim basis, it's a great opportunity, a privilege and an honor to serve as East Central's head football coach," said the Warrior head mentor.

"I certainly appreciate the confidence shown in me by Dr. Sutphin and the College's Board of Trustees. I'm very excited about being head coach and look forward to continuing our efforts to help build the best football program possible at East Central Community College."

ECCC President Dr. Phil Sutphin said Anderson, one of three candidates interviewed for the head coach position, "has the presence, energy and enthusiasm to move the College's football program to a respectable level over the next decade.

"During the current year, the level of team discipline and the results in the classroom have demonstrated a commitment to the student athlete."

ECCC PHOTO

East Central Community College Head Footbal Coach Brian Anderson answers questions from media during his appointment announcement.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

NEWTON COUNTY APPEAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES ✓

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

Continued from previous page

week of 12-28-09

head coach

Dr. Sutphin said his selection of Coach Anderson "is driven by my desire to build on the foundation that has begun over the last two years and to reinforce the current recruitment process that has continued despite the uncertainty of the search process."

The other candidates were Freeman Horton, head football coach and athletic director at Coahoma Community College in Clarksdale, and Brad Peterson, head football coach at Louisville High School.

Peterson served as head coach of the Forest High School Bearcats for the 2003 and 2004 seasons before leaving to coach at his own alma mater in Louisville.

While in Forest, Peterson guided the Bearcats to state playoffs in two consecutive years. He was succeeded by fellow Louisville native and current head coach, Judd Boswell.

Anderson joined the ECCC staff in 2008 as offensive coordinator, running backs and quarterbacks coach, and continued to serve in that capacity when he was named interim coach.

FILE PHOTO

Former Forest Coach Brad Peterson confers with a refereee during his tenure with the Bearcats. Peterson, now at Louisville, was a candidate for the ECCC head football coach position.

The Warriors had one of the state's top offensive units this past season, despite its 2-7 record. East Central finished third overall and averaged 423.6 yards per game.

The rushing offense was also ranked third with a 179.6-yard average.

The Warrior passing attack was fourth and averaged 249 yards per contest.

See COACH, 15A

Coach

From page 14A

Prior to joining the ECCC staff, Anderson served as head football coach at Grenada High School for one season (2007-08) and posted a 5-6 record.

He led the Philadelphia High School football program from 2004-07, amassing an overall 27-8 mark. His offenses were rated among the best at both schools. He is also a former assistant at Meridian, Philadelphia and Neshoba Central high schools.

Prior to beginning his coaching career, Anderson was a football standout at Mississippi State University, where he was the starting center on the 1992-95 Bulldog squads and earned honorable mention All-American honors. He was twice named All-Southeastern Conference and received various other awards.

A native of Prattville, Ala., Anderson is married to the former Lea Ann Allen of Philadelphia. They have two children, Brady and Eli.

WEEK OF 12-28-09

ECCC Football Warriors Continuing Careers

These standouts on the 2009 East Central Community College football squad signed letters of intent with various universities during a ceremony held December 16 on the Decatur campus. Signees and their respective universities are (seated from left) offensive lineman Jarred Fleming of Louisville, Troy State University, Troy, Ala.; quarterback Emmanuel Taylor of Blakely, Ga., University of Alabama-Birmingham; defensive back C.J. Estelle of Sylacauga, Ala., University of Tennessee-Martin; defensive back Preston Felder of Meridian, Henderson State University, Arkadelphia, Ark.; and defensive back Ken Griffin of Philadelphia, Delta State University in Cleveland. Fleming (6-5, 290) received MACJC first team all-state and all-star honors and was selected the Warriors' best offensive lineman. Taylor (5-10, 180) was named first team all-state for the second straight season. He also received one of the Warriors' team captain awards. Taylor was ranked third in the state in passing yardage, completing 154 of 277 attempts for 2,241 yards and 15 touchdowns. Estelle (5-9, 175) was among the state's top defenders and return specialists. He tied for fourth in interceptions with four and had 16 kickoff returns for 354 yards. Felder (5-9, 175) was credited with 34 tackles, six pass break-ups, and an interception. Griffin (6-0, 190), also a all-star, was among the state's top tacklers with 49 solo stops and 26 assists. Also shown is head coach Brian Anderson.

ECCC photo

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

NEWTON COUNTY APPEAL ✓

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF 3/2/09

EC Photo

Burk chips it in

ECCC golfer Griffin Burk chips onto the No. 3 green at Forest Country Club during final round action Sunday of a MACJC tournament hosted by East Central Community College. Burk, a Neshoba Central product, led the Warriors with rounds of 74 and 84 for a 158 total. The East Central team placed fifth in the 12-team event, won by Gulf Coast.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT ✓

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

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WEEK OF 3/23/09

ECCC PHOTO

ECCC GOLFERS

Ready to begin the 2009 campaign are the above members of East Central Community College's golf team. From left are JC Moore, a product of Forest High School; Eric Burgess, East Rankin Academy; Coach James Moore, golf professional at Forest Country Club; Kyle Killens, Newton County High School; Daniel Johnson, Union High School; and Conner Herrington, Leake Academy. In back is Griffin Burk, Neshoba Central. The Warrior linksters began competition Feb. 16 in the Pearl River Community College Invitational scheduled at Hattiesburg Country Club. East Central hosted a tournament earlier this month at Forest Country Club.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES ✓

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON COUNTY APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

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WEEK OF 4/13/09

Brown signs with East Central

Carthage High School standout golfer Luke Brown, center, recently signed a national letter of intent to continue his athletic career at East Central Community College in Decatur. Brown received All-State and All-District honors his junior season and placed fifth in the state golf tournament. He has been a member of the high school golf team for six years. Also pictured are, from left, his mother, Paula Brown, and James Moore, ECCC golf coach. Brown's father is Jimmy Brown. *(EC Photo)*

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN ✓

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON COUNTY APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF May 18, 2009

Photo by Debbie Burt Myers

Signs to play golf at EC

Neshoba Central senior Matthew Tingle signs a two-year scholarship to play golf at East Central Community College. Seated at his left is his grandfather, Derrell Smith; and at right, his mother Lisa Tingle. Standing are EC golf coach James Moore and Neshoba coach Tommy McCool.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

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NESHOBA DEMOCRAT ✓

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WEEK OF May 18, 2009

Photo by Debbie Burt Myers

Signs with East Central golf

Neshoba Central senior Austin Jenkins signs a two-year scholarship to play golf at East Central Community College. Seated at his left is his father, Scott; and at right, his mother Melanie. Standing are EC golf coach James Moore and Neshoba coach Tommy McCool.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

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WEEK OF June 29, 2009

ECCC Warrior Golf Classic nets $8,300

Approximately $8,300 was raised for student scholarships as a result of the eighth annual East Central Community College Warrior Golf Classic, according to tournament coordinator Stacey Hollingsworth, executive director for foundation and alumni relations.

Hollingsworth said 24 teams participated in the four-person scramble, held June 25 at the Philadelphia Country Club. The College's Alumni Association has sponsored the annual fundraiser since 2002.

"The 2009 Warrior Golf Classic was a great event for the ECCC Alumni Association," Hollingsworth said. "We are so thankful to all the participants, corporate and hole sponsors, volunteers and staff of the Philadelphia Country Club for another successful tournament."

Approximately $27,000 in scholarship monies have been awarded since the tournaments inception. Scholarships are awarded to students residing in the College's five-county district during the annual AT&T Scholarship Appreciation Luncheon held each summer on the Decatur campus.

Cox and Powers Insurance Agency in Carthage took top honors in this year's competition and was also the corporate division winner with a score of 53 on the par 72 course. Team members included Aubry Cox, Phil Shepard, Bob Jordan and Jimmy Bell.

Runner-up in the championship flight was the Howard Industries team who carded a 54. Team members included Rusty Thoms, Jay Witcher, Mark Power and Craig Robertson.

The Chancellor team also shot a 54 but finished third in the championship flight due to a scorecard playoff. Team members were Van Chancellor, Heze Chancellor, Kyle Chambliss and Robert Tranum.

Also competing in the championship flight were the Crosby McDonald team (Crosby McDonald, Dan Moody, Richie Long and Trent Travis), which shot 55; James Moore team (James Moore, J.C. Moore, David Freeman and Alex Deason), which shot 56; and the Eric Burgess Team (Eric Burgess, Branden Moore, Hunter Fortenberry and Shelby Patterson), which also carded a 56. The team from Southern Pine Electric (Jason Siegfried, Chad Lewis, Lake Thoms and Jason Mangum) shot a 58 and the Ron Perkins team (Ron Perkins, Jason Laird, Les Hull and Mark Vick) scored a 60.

FIRST FLIGHT

The team of Glynn Griffing and Associates won the first flight with a 60. Team members included Glynn Griffing, Milton Walker, Brent Walker and Trey Porter. Newton County Bank and Prince Oil Company teams also carded a 60 and captured second and third place honors, respectively, after a score card playoff. Newton County Bank team members were Robert Munn, James "Creeper" Nelson, Jr., Joel Nelson and Ted Whittle.

APPEARED IN:

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NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON COUNTY APPEAL _____

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WEEK OF June 29, 2009

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"The 2009 Warrior Golf Classic was a great event for the ECCC Alumni Association," Hollingsworth said. "We are so thankful to all the participants, corporate and hole sponsors, volunteers and staff of the Philadelphia Country Club for another successful tournament."

Photo by Steve Swogetinsky

Cooking up lunch at the eighth annual East Central Community College Warrior Golf Classic were, from left, Chris Harris, DeAnne Aulds, Kristin Chaney and Joe Barrett.

Approximately $27,000 in scholarship monies have been awarded since the tournaments inception. Scholarships are awarded to students residing in the College's five-county district during the annual AT&T

See **ECCC**, page 8A

Continued from page 7A

Scholarship Appreciation Luncheon held each summer on the Decatur campus.

Cox and Powers Insurance Agency in Carthage took top honors in this year's competition and was also the corporate division winner with a score of 53 on the par 72 course. Team members included Aubry Cox, Phil Shepard, Bob Jordan and Jimmy Bell.

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APPEARED IN:

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: OF June 15, 2009

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ECCC Warrior Golf Classic Planned, June 25

FROM STAFF REPORTS

DECATUR — A change in location and lower fees are in place for the 2009 East Central Community College Warrior Golf Classic, the annual fundraising event that provides scholarships for ECCC students.

This year's four-person scramble will be held Thursday, June 25 at Philadelphia Country Club, Stacey Hollingsworth, executive director for Foundation and Alumni Relations said.

Registration begins at 9 a.m. and is followed by shotgun start at 10 a.m. Lunch will be provided at noon on the course.

"We've had great experiences at the Dancing Rabbit Golf Club," Hollingsworth said in explaining the new venue for the eighth annual event, "but the Alumni Association Board decided it was time to again move the tournament to other golf courses in our five-county district.

"By doing so, we are also able to lower fees for individuals and corporate sponsorships."

All but one of the Golf Classics was held at the Dancing Rabbit Club. Forest Country Club served as host in 2005.

Hollingsworth said the entry fee for individual players is $85, which includes lunch, a Warrior Golf Classic T-shirt, door prize and the opportunity to win various give-a-ways.

An additional $15 is added to the fee for those needing to rent a golf cart. There is no additional charge for participants who provide their own golf carts.

Corporate sponsorships are available at the following levels: Gold, $500 (includes entry fee for four-person team and a hole sponsorship); Silver, $300 (includes fees for two golfers and a hole sponsorship); and Bronze, $100 (includes a hole sponsorship).

Awards will be presented to the Corporate Team champion and the top three winners in each flight. Various on-course prizes will also be provided.

Since its inception in 2002, the Warrior Golf Classic has netted nearly $50,000 in scholarship monies for students residing in the ECCC district, which includes Leake, Neshoba, Newton, Scott and Winston counties.

For more information, contact Stacey Hollingsworth, executive director for Foundation and Alumni Relations at ECCC, Phone 601-635-2111 or call toll free, 877-462-3222, ext. 327. Her e-mail address is sholling@eccc.edu.

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WEEK OF July 6, 2009

ECCC winners

Place Third in ECCC Warrior Golf Classic

The Chancellor team took third place honors in the championship flight of the eighth annual East Central Community College Warrior Golf Classic held June 25 at Philadelphia Country Club. They scored a 54 on the par 72 course. Team members included (from left) Heze Chancellor and Kyle Chambliss, both of Louisville; Van Chancellor of Baton Rouge, La., and Robert Tranum of Louisville. Twenty-four teams participated in the four-person scramble, which is sponsored by the College's Alumni Association and serves as a fundraiser for student scholarships. Approximately $8,300 was raised in this year's event, according to tournament coordinator Stacey Hollingsworth, executive director for foundation and alumni relations. ECCC serves Leake, Neshoba, Newton, Scott and Winston counties.

Second Flight Winners

he Tyson Foods-Carthage team took first place honors in the second flight of the eighth annual East Central Community College Warrior Golf Classic held June 25 at Philadelphia Country Club. They scored a 62 on the par 72 course. Team members included (from left) Tyler Threadgill of Louisville, David Minett of Pearl, Mike Williams of Russellville, Ark., and Chas McClain of Philadelphia.

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WEEK OF May 4, 2009

Women's Juco Soccer

SUBMITTED PHOTO

JOINING THE LADY WARRIORS' TRIBE

Northeast Lauderdale soccer standout Kathryn White signed a national letter-of-intent with East Central Community College on Wednesday. Joining White at the signing are, front row from left, mother Kathy White and father Charles White; back row, East Central coach Kenneth Thompson and Northeast coach Michael Clarke. White played three years for the Lady Trojans, earning MVP honors as a junior before being hindered by injuries her senior season.

APPEARED IN:

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WEEK OF June 1, 2009

New Soccer Lady Warriors

East Central Community College women's soccer team signees for 2009-10 were recognized during a special program held recently on the Decatur campus. New Soccer Lady Warriors and their respective high schools include (seated from left) midfielders Monica Vincent and Polly Vaughn, both products of Newton County High School; and (standing from left) midfielder Jessy Harrison of Newton County, forward/keeper Laurel Burnett of Neshoba Central and defender Kathryn White of Northeast Lauderdale. Kenneth Thompson serves as ECCC soccer coach.

APPEARED IN:

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NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON COUNTY APPEAL ✓

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WEEK OF June 22, 2009

New ECCC Soccer Warriors Recognized

East Central Community College men's soccer team signees for 2009-10 were recognized during a special program held on the Decatur campus. New Soccer Warriors and their respective high schools include (seated from left) midfielder David Galvin, Long Beach; midfielder Chase Sonak and keeper Micah McKee, both of West Lauderdale; midfielder Joey Walker, Newton County; and defender Lance Smith, Greene County. Standing are midfielder Edgar Alvarez, Forest; midfielder/forward Zack Hutson, McComb; defender Tres Hartley and keeper Justin Huguet, both of Greene County; forward Ben Stewart, Grenada; defender Ethan Carter, Philadelphia; and defender Jared Mullins, Faith Christian School, Tupelo. Not pictured is midfielder Alejandro Chavez, New Albany. Kenneth Thompson serves as head coach.

EC photo

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WEEK OF 12-14-09

Greer shines at ECCC

Carthage High School graduate Brandy Greer, center, who started as goalie for the East Central Community College soccer team before suffering a season-ending injury, has been nominated for HEADWAE Student of the Year at ECCC. Higher Education Appreciation Day-Working for Academic Excellence (HEADWAE) is a program of the Mississippi Legislature. Greer also earned a softball scholarship at ECCC. She is pictured with ECCC soccer assistant Brooke White, left, and head coach Kenneth Thompson.

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WEEK OF August 15, 2009

PICTURE THIS

ECCC PHOTO

EC SIGNS DAVIS

Sara Davis (right) of Demopolis, Ala., is shown signing a national letter-of-intent to play fast-pitch softball at East Central Community College in Decatur. Davis, a 5-9 pitcher, is a graduate of Demopolis High School. Shown with his new squad member is ECCC head coach Scott Hill.

APPEARED IN:

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PHI BETA LAMBDA COLLECTS CELL PHONES FOR CHARITY

SUBMITTED PHOT

Members of East Central Community College' Phi Beta Lambda chapter are shown with some o the cell phones collected to benefit the Sunbel Christian Children's Ranch near Lake. Seated fron left are Lachelle Moss of Decatur, Amanda Jone of Newton and Kristina Bell of Conehatta Standing from left are Kimberly Amerson o Decatur, Kristy Frazier of Kosciusko, Wand Henderson of Forest, Kimberly Goodin of Decatu and Brenda Hubsher of Forest. The effort is par of the organization's annual community servic project.

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ECCC announces fall honor roll, dean's lis

Special to the Times

Students named to the 2008 fall semester honor roll, which includes those selected to the President's List, Dean's List and Honorable Mention List, have been announced at East Central Community College.

Those named to the President's List, students with a 4.0 grade point average, include the following:

CARTHAGE: Britni Leigh Harvey, Lacy Leigh McMurry, Brandon Trey McNeece, Lakecia Ann McQueen, Deanna C. Morris, Whitney Blake Thompson and Jason Tywan Yarbrough

DECATUR: Joseph Kyle Barrett, Benton Cody Cotton, Jason Robert Hancock, Joy Lynn Hayes, Richard McGill Mosby, Megan Clarice Munn, Brandon Scott Thomas and Robin Renae Willis

FOREST: Bethany Nicole Autry, Diane Marie Berthelette, Cody Ray Buckley, Kristen Magan Chamblee, Brittany Jade Cushman, Jordan Matthew Gunn, Jennifer Theresa Shannon, Jessica Shea Smith and Dequita T. Williams

LAKE: Sheila Ann Edwards and Jason Hardy Hawthorne

MORTON: Adrienne Marie Bird, Memry Estelle Holmes, Jana Floy Johnson and Erin Brooke Jones

NEWTON: Landon Bryan Burt, Kevin Jay Chapman, Shaun Michael Cooper, Elise Marie Gibbs, Laurel Anne Godwin, Barbara Rose Lyles, Adrienne Elizabeth McDill, Abby Marie McMillan, Kayla Christine Meaders, Emily Lauren Pace, Laura Ann Walley and Robert Mitchell Ward

PULASKI: Candace Dianne Wade

WALNUT GROVE: Daniel Eric Bankston, Melissa Kuhn Ellis, Emily Kristen Thomas and Keevin L. Windham

DEAN'S LIST

The Dean's List includes the following students who achieved a 3.5 or above grade point average:

CARTHAGE: Amelia K. Burnside, Jessica Nicole Cherry, Kasey Sue Crutcher, Eric Slay Dowell, Conner David Herrington, Richard Andrew Johnston, Cristen Shalane Jones, Cynthia Anne Middlebrooks, Laquindric Antawn Stokes and Katherine E. Taylor

DECATUR: Carl M. Adkins, Colton Evan Amis, Cayla Delaine Boyd, Susan Naomi Brown, Calli Leigh Cumberland, Kyle Leon Ethridge, Lane Scott Fulton, Kristina Danielle Harrison, Jesse Lee Holloway, Kristen L. Pillsbury, Zachary W. Pillsbury, Jimmy Morris Pritchett and Francesca M. Windham

FOREST: Edgar Agustin Alvarez, Kristi Lynn Bell, Jessica Danielle Brown, Brandi Leigh Chambers, Haley R. Culpepper, Brittany Denise Jennings, Crystal Amanda Massey, Adam Corey McLemore, William Matthew Poole, Matthias Colby Sharpe, Caitlin Michelle Slay, Kristen Michelle Smith, John Christopher Snow, Rochelsey Symone Thomas, Krista Alicia Thrash, Matthew Ryan Wade, Audrianna Walker and Tommie Lee Wells

KOSCIUSKO: Kristy Michelle Frazier and Joshua Mal Huffman

LAKE: Whitley Ann Fisher, Mary Alli French, Brandi Renee Gray and April Denise Smith

MORTON: Bailey Allyn Brown, Brittany Frances Cameron, Benjamin Bryce Harrell and Idael Pestana

NEWTON: April Nicole Dunavant, Jasmine Shawanda Grass, Lolita Renee Jordan, Dominique Latesch McKee, Peachrich W. Pouerie, Stephanie L. Robinson, Benjamin Bounds Thames, Amanda Lynn Ward, Kanisha Shalois Warnsley and Theresa Rochelle White

PULASKI: Stacy Alane Henderson

SEBASTOPOL: Kimberly Jean Bassett, Tara Rose Gilmer and Kimberly Shea Norman

WALNUT GROVE: Paula J. Covarrubias, Tyler Lee Jones, Justin Randall McNeill and James Zachary Wright

HONORABLE MENTION LIST

The following students were named to the Honorable Mention List and earned a 3.0 or above grade point average:

CARTHAGE: Jennifer Loren Atkinson, Pamela Renee Boone, David Brian Burns, Kristy Lynn Chamblee, Kayla Catherine Cook, Gwendolyn Mavis Crumbley, Joey Michael Dorman, Anahi Acevedo Esqueda, Shantie Fortune, Amanda Rene Griffith, Monica Leann James, Alicia Marie Jayroe, Corbin Brooks Jenkins, Joshua Cortez Luckett, Aaron Patrick Mann, James William McBeth, Ruby Elizabeth McCurdy, Valerie B. McMurry, Virginia Ruth Mitchell, Kimberly Michelle Moore, Ashley Nicole Pigg, John Ellis Pinkard, Edward N. Russell, Kristen C. Russell, Michael C. Sanford, Rebecca Carol Wilbanks and Emily Dianne Wooten

DECATUR: Kim Denise Amerson, Kimberly Ann Amerson, Sierra Rene Croff, Ashley Renee Dumas, Doris Ann Frith, Joseph Kyle Killens, Angela Marie Massey, Austin Ward Mather, Cheryl Juanita McElhenney, Daniel Blake Pickett, Cherry C. Quince, Robert Dustin Reed, Robert H. Richardson, Jeremy Jacob Saucier, Tiffany Mechelle Spence and Pamela Doinne Townsend

FOREST: Jennifer Leann Allen, Carmen Braddy, Jessica Monique Brown, Mercedes Akis Brown, Christopher A. Bufkin, Christopher D. Crowell, Hannah Brooke Culpepper, Miranda Gail Edwards, Ashley E. Gibbs, Brittany Roshae Gray, Sherry Christina Green, Wanda Kay Henderson, Rachel Leah Huff, Juanita Jones, Josh David Ledford, Gary David Mart, William B. McKinley, Jacqueline K. Pace, Rachel Marie Ramirez, Brandi Suzanne Ricks, Latoya Renea Robinson, Tanika S. Robinson, Lindsey Deanna Sanders, Tina Marie Smith, Randy Mikel Snow, Sarah Leann Summerlin, Lori Leann Thompson, Cody Walters, Amanda Lacy Warren and Noelle Webb

KOSCIUSKO: Brittni Rachelle Ca Sherry A. Huie and Chasity Ann McAdam

LAKE: Roshanda Tatyona Butler, Cynth Cochran, Santigous N. Culpepper, Marg Christina Gibbs, Kristen Leanne Pa Virginia Dale Posey, Matthew Scott Ri Juley Elizabeth Taylor, Michael Cody Ta Sam Lewis Wooten and Emily Michele Wy

MORTON: Douglas Wayne Harrison, D Regina Hope, Brittany Nicole Housley, Bet Susan Latham, Amber Brooke McCau Zane Mouchett, Justin Devon Runnels Corey Lynn Shoemaker

NEWTON: Shan'neeci Sylene Brown, Victoria Carmichael, Shaterica Shawan C Steve Edwards, Marcus Deon Evans, W Jamal Flowers, Kimberly Lea Goodin, Ki Paige Jones, Bernolia Laster, Dylan Cra Randolph, Cierra C. Robinson, Moniqu Robinson, Rena F. Robinson, Casey L Rowzee, Holly Kathleen Tullos, Audra De Walker, Hailey Christine Walker, Cass Donte Wash and Anna Victoria Williams

WALNUT GROVE: Sylvester Keyon C Jeremy Martin Corley, Mary E. Brooke Tiffany Leeann Lowery, Ashley Nicole M Evan M. Summers-Jones and Claris Weathers

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These East Central Community College students in Decatur were named to Who's Who Among Students in American Junior Colleges for the 2008-09 school year. The outstanding students were nominated for the honor by faculty and staff, with selection based on academic achievement and involvement in extracurricular clubs and organizations. Honorees include (first row, from left) Anna Laurie Ezelle; Emily Thrash, Sherry Weeks, Josh Dickerson, Shaun Cooper; Anna Munn, Sidney Gutierrez, Jessica Galloway, Brittany Cushman, and Windie Poston, (second row, from left) Briana Edison, Genny Freeman, Laurel; Amber Smith; Megan Munn, Caiti Slay; Emilee Lanier; Kylie Rigdon, Lacy McMurry and Kasey Crutcher; Angela Valentine, and Reva Coate, (third row, from left) Calli Cumberland, Adrienne Bird, Candi Vance, Ben Thames, Drew Harrison, Aaron Morrison, Anna Johnson, Brooke Barrett, Tammy Plaisance, and Donovan Tate. Not pictured are Courtney Albritton; Dustin Alley, Dekota Anthony, Jordon Clark, Spencer Dickerson, Kim Foy, Doug Kelley, Brandi Mathes and Marsha Payne, Paula Bounds, Rose Hill; Ashley Dunn, Tyler Hansford, Anna Johnson, Daniel Johnson, Leslie Mangrum and Krystle Wolverton ,Autumn Durant, Preston; Sarah Eakes, Jasen Fairley, Joy Hayes and Kyle Killens; Lolita Jordan, Joshua Luckett, Laken Morgan and Kristi Stapp; Beth Stephens, and Devarus Walker. (EC Photo)

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WEEK OF 1-19-09

Five area students hit Who's Who

Five area students were among nearly 70 East Central Community College students named to Who's Who Among Students in American Junior Colleges for the 2008-09 school term.

Students were nominated by faculty and staff, and chosen based on academic achievement and involvement in extracurricular activities.

Honorees and their hometowns included Kasey Crutcher, Joshua Luckett, Aaron Mann and Lacy McMurry, all of Carthage; and Emily Thrash, Sebastopol.

Students will be recognized during the college's annual May 7 awards day in Huff Auditorium.

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WEEK OF 1-19-09

ECCC Drum Line Featured on Company Web Site

The drum line for the 2008-09 edition of the East Central Community College Wall O' Sound Marching Band is currently featured on the Vic Firth Web site. Located in Boston, MA, Vic Firth, Inc. is regarded as one of the most prominent percussion instrument implementation manufacturers in the world and is also recognized as a leader in educational resources for percussion students and teachers. The above photo and one taken during a 2008 halftime performance of a Warrior football game are included on the Web site along with video clips of drum line performances. Drum line members include (kneeling from left) Jacob Phillips and Justin Weathers, both products of Philadelphia High School; Nathan Spears and Julian Greer, both of Neshoba Central; Jonathan Crabtree, Warren Central; Travis Smallwood and Anna Switzer, both of West Lauderdale; Brewer McGee, John Davis Bates and Nathan Calvert, all of Neshoba Central; Doug Janz, Louisville; and Teddy Bloodsaw, Forest; and (standing from left) Brittany Gibbs, Lake; Emily Malone, Carthage; Cody Thrash, Walnut Grove; Javier Araujo, Morton; Dale Alberts, West Lauderdale; Kyle Barrett, Newton County; Casey Stokes, Neshoba Central; and Brandon Hughes, Newton County. Jared Brownlee, who is in his eleventh year as assistant director of bands and percussion instructor, said being featured on the prestigious company's Web site is "great international exposure for our college…and is a further indication of the talented students we have at ECCC." Thomas W. Carson serves as ECCC director of bands. (EC Photo)

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WEEK OF 2-2-09

ECCC Recognizes Who's Who Students

Special to the Times

Nearly 70 East Central Community College students were chosen to Who's Who Among Students in American Junior Colleges for the 2008-09 school term, announced Joe Killens, vice president for student services.

Students receiving the prestigious honor were nominated by faculty and staff and chosen based on academic achievement and involvement in extracurricular clubs and organizations.

Honorees and their respective hometowns include Courtney Albritton, Ethel; Dustin Alley, McDonough, Ga.; Dekota Anthony, Jordon Clark, Derek Crenshaw, Spencer Dickerson, Kim Foy, Doug Kelley, Brandi Mathes, Marsha Payne and Windie Poston, all of Philadelphia; Kolby Sisson, Noxapater; Brooke Barrett, Austin Crouther, Josh Dickerson, Anna Laurie Ezelle, Jessica Galloway, Tyler Hansford, Anna Johnson, Daniel Johnson, Leslie Mangrum, Tyler Nicholson, Tammy Plaisance, Kylie Rigdon, Amber Smith, Candi Vance and Krystle Wolverton, all of Union; Ashlyn Dunn, Pelahatchie; Adrienne Bird, Morton; Paula Bounds, Rose Hill; Allen Cheek, Carrollton; Reva Coate and Sidney Gutierrez, both of Chunky; Shaun Cooper, Nicole Dunavant, Lolita Jordan, Aaron Morrison and Ben Thames, all of Newton; Kasey Crutcher, Joshua Luckett, Aaron Mann and Lacy McMurry, all of Carthage; Calli Cumberland, Joy Hayes, Kyle Killens and Megan Munn, all of Decatur; Brittany Cushman and Caitlin Slay, both of Forest; Autumn Dunn, Preston; Sarah Eakes, Drew Harrison and Emilee Lanier, all of Little Rock; Briana Edison and Jasen Fairley, both of Collins; Jonathan Federick, Angela Valentine and Devarus Walker, all of Hickory; Genny Freeman, Laurel; Timothy Maloney, Meridian; Laken Morgan, Kristi Stapp and Sherry Weeks, all of Louisville; Anna Munn, Collinsville; Beth Stephens, Lawrence; Donovan Tate, Hattiesburg; and Emily Thrash, Sebastopol.

The outstanding students will be recognized during the College's annual Awards Day program scheduled May 7 in Huff Auditorium.

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WEEK OF 2-2-09

ECCC SKILLSUSA MEMBERS ANNOUNCED

SUBMITTED PHOTO

The SkillsUSA members for 2008-09 have been announced for East Central Community College in Decatur. The club is a national organization serving members enrolled in training programs in technical, skilled and service occupations, which prepares workers by providing educational experiences for students in leadership, teamwork, citizenship and character development. SkillsUSA members include: (front row, from left) Clancy Scarborough of Louisville, Chaz Brunschon of Sebastopol, Evan Pinson of Little Rock, Zack Reed of Forest, Josh Steele of Philadelphia, Patrick Walton of Lauderdale, Bruce Manning of Noxapater and Ben Walton of Lauderdale; (second row, from left) Austin Vernon of Louisville, Chester Whittle of Philadelphia, Lannis Windham of Sebastopol, Richard Mosby of Decatur, Eric Boone of Forest, Lavell McDonald of Newton, Kris Holmes of Louisville, Dustin Davis and Kurt Tolbert, both of Philadelphia; (back row, from left) Joseph Downing of Philadelphia, Sylvester Carter of Walnut Grove, Clint Sloan of Louisville, Jesse Holloway of Decatur, Doug Harrison of Morton, Jason Cacote of Natchez, Chris Morgan of Lawrence, Ricky Rickles of Philadelphia and Kenny Drury of Noxapater. Club sponsors are Lynn Selman and Sherri Cliburn.

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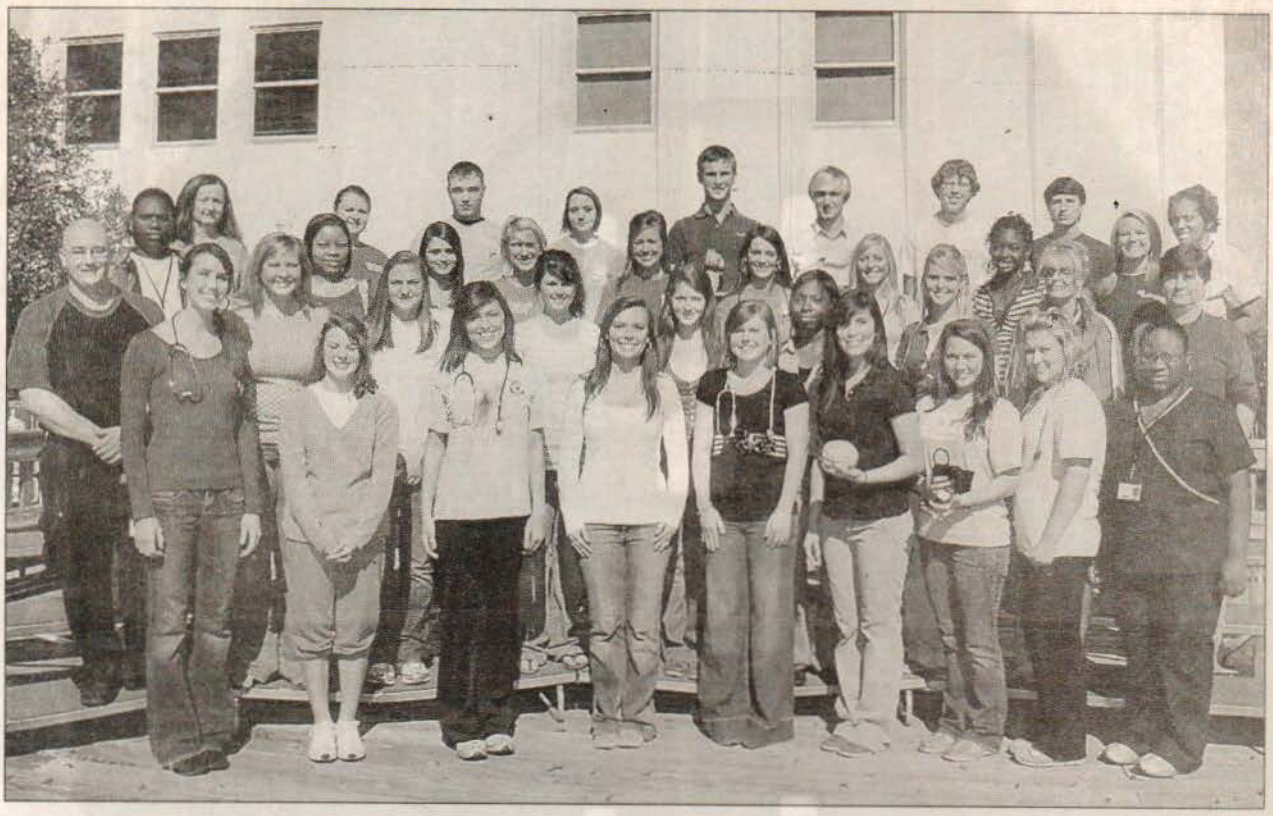
WEEK OF 12-9-09

ECCC Sigma Sigma Mu Tau



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Sigma Sigma Mu Tau members for 2008-09 have been announced for East Central Community College in Decatur. Sigma Sigma Mu Tau is an organization for students who are majoring in medical fields. Members include: (front row, from left) Kimberley Blackwell of Nanih Waiya, Erin Huffman of Collinsville, Amber Madison of Philadelphia, Alison Lowery of Louisville, Chelsey Boatner of Philadelphia, Rachel Ramirez of Forest, Britni Harvey and Mabry Freeny, both of Carthage; and Shannon Gallaspy of Newton; (second row, from left) Chris Tramill of Newton, Erin Breland of Philadelphia, Abby McMillan of Newton, Ashley Pigg of Carthage, Anna Fulton of Louisville, Gelisa Sumling of Heidelberg, Brittany Cushman of Forest, and club sponsors, biology instructor Kim Hardy and chemistry instructor Peggy Clayton; (third row, from left) Brandi Jasper of Quitman, Gee-Gee H. Grace of Meridian, Brandi Mathes of Philadelphia, Ginny Mitchell of Carthage, Adrienne Bird of Morton, Kayla Adcock of Louisville, Anna Munn of Collinsville, and Demetria Coleman and Whitney Smith, both of Louisville; and (fourth row, from left) biology instructor Patti Davis, club sponsor, Jodie Roberts, Chris Pearson and Katharyn Benson, all of Union; Matt Naylor of Collinsville, McClain Mullins of Tupelo, Corbin Jenkins of Carthage, Josh Ledford of Forest and Evelyn Smith of Newton.

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WEEK OF 2-9-09

ECCC ASNEC second-year members...ASNEC second-year members for 2008-09 have been announced for East Central Community College in Decatur. ASNEC is an organization for students enrolled in the Associate Degree Nursing Program. It is designed to promote and encourage participation in community affairs and activities towards improved healthcare and related social issues. Second-year members include: (front row, from left) Stewart Marshall of Meridian, Kim Williams of Forest, April Hogue of Carthage, Tiffanie Credille, secretary and second-year delegate, of Union; Tiffany Dora of Louisville, Kelvin Knowles of Louisville, Brandi Goodwin of Meridian, Macqualine Triplett of Newton, Kim Traxler of Morton, and Shannon Harrison of Union; (second row, from left) Tiffany Quick of Philadelphia, Mildred Young of Jackson, Shana Harrison of Sebastopol, Kristy Holmes of Louisville, Jennifer Harris of Newton, Jana Hunt of Weir, Shelley Darby, treasurer, of Philadelphia, Sandra Colyer of Morton, Keysa Graham of Heidelberg and Corey Shoemaker of Morton, (third row, from left) Doug Kelley, president and second-year delegate, of Sebastopol; Michelle Galloway of Union, Christy Ezell of Decatur, Christy Gressett of Chunky, Kristi Stapp of Louisville, Jessica Dean of Decatur, Tori Williams of Sebastopol, Rebecca Wilbanks of Carthage, Kemyatta Qualls of Forest, Barbara Pitts of Carthage, Cindy Payne of Philadelphia and Erin Miller of Louisville; and (back row, from left) Scott Hayman of Raleigh, Steven McKenzie of Smithdale, Brad McKinley of Forest, Kim Burton of Union, Kim Crockett of Brandon, Kay Boswell of Noxapater, Daniel Pickett of Decatur, Tiffany Henson of Carthage, Rebecca Brown of Sebastopol, secretary; Cynthia Ledlow of Union, Alisha Hitt of Little Rock, Dawn Gibson of Hickory, Holly Tullos of Newton, Lance Wooten of Forest, and Ashley Castillo of Newton. For more information about ECCC ASNEC contact Christy Savell at 601-635-6317, call toll free, 1-877-462-3222 ext. 317. (EC Photo)

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WEEK OF 2-16-09

ECCC freshman favorites

Freshman class favorites for 2008-09 have been announced for East Central Community College including, from left, front, Kerri Cook of Carthage, Anna Fulton of Nanih Waiya, Bailey Brown of East Rankin Academy; back, Lance Goodin of Nanih Waiya, and Cody Ming of Winston Academy. Not pictured is Edgar Alvarez of Forest.

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2-16-09

Representing the East Central Community College student body, Matthew Wade and Kristina Ealy were recently elected Mr. and Miss ECCC.

Wade, Ealy named Mr. and Miss ECCC

Forest sophomores Matthew Wade and Kristina Ealy were selected Mr. and Miss East Central Community College in Decatur for 2008-08 following the recent campus election.

Matthew Wade

Wade, son of Chuck and Kathy Wade of Forest, is a graduate of Forest High School, where he was selected Most School Spirit and Best Personality.

He is on the Warrior Tennis Team and is a recipient of the ACT, Leadership, Tennis and Mable Moore Carr scholarships.

His hobbies include playing tennis and golf.

Wade describes himself as "laid back and easy going."

While at ECCC, Wade said he has learned to be himself.

"I love the small atmosphere and being able to walk across campus and see someone I know."

Wade said he will miss the friends he made while at ECCC, the most.

He plans to attend Mississippi State University and major in secondary education.

Kristina Ealy

Ealy is a honor graduate of Forest High School, where she was the recipient of the Best Citizen Award. Her parents are Mr. and Mrs. Alexander Ealy of Forest.

She is a member of the Wall O' Sound Marching Band and Warrior Corps. She is the recipient of academic achievement and band scholarships. Ealy enjoys shopping, dancing and bowling.

She describes herself as "a very outgoing and intelligent person." Ealy said she enjoys the campus activities most about ECCC.

"East Central is a great place to start your college career," she said.

During her time at ECCC, Ealy said she has learned how to be responsible.

"I will miss all the great friends and staff I have met here at EC the most," she said.

Ealy plans to attend the University of Southern Mississippi and major in elementary education.

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WEEK OF 2-16-09

Enrollment up at East Central

Enrollment reached 2,462 students for the 2009 spring term at East Central Community College in Decatur, an increase of more than 200 students for the same period last year, announced Donna Luke, Director of Admissions, Records and Research.

Included in the total are 1,704 academic students, 653 technical students and 105 students enrolled in career programs. Luke noted 1,877 students are enrolled as full-time students and 585 students are taking courses on a part-time basis.

ECCC President Dr. Phil A. Sutphin said the enrollment increase reflects the current economic condition and services offered by the College.

"During a slow economy, community colleges tend to see increases in enrollment," said Dr. Sutphin. "Students generally realize the need for advanced skills and education in a competitive job market such as the one that exists today."

The spring 2008 enrollment was 2,259 and included 1,604 academic students, 555 technical students and 100 students in career programs. Students enrolled on a full-time basis totaled 1,762 and 497 were considered part-time students.

The East Central Community College district includes Leake, Neshoba, Newton, Scott and Winston counties.

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WEEK OF 2-16-09

District Band clinic

Band Students attend District Clinic

Five band students from the Louisville High School band program attended the East Central Mississippi Band Directors Association Band Clinic in Ridgeland, MS on February 6 and 7, 2009. The two day clinic culminated on Saturday at 11:30 with a concert by the junior high band and two high school bands. Students attending from Louisville were Josh Thompson, Brittany Lucas, Matthew Matzek, Cierra Tanner and Kendralyn Roberson. Band directors for the Louisville Band Program are Jesse Yates, Tim Avant and Amber Roland.

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WEEK OF 2-16-09

ECCC Band clinic

Louisville High School Students attend ECCC Clinic
Seven students from the Louisville band program recently attended the ECCC Band Clinic in Decatur, MS. Attending were seated from left: Tesha Cistrunk, De'Obra Smith, Dominique Houston and Rachel Sharp. Standing left to right is Shanteeze Carter, Quintin Darden, and Dalesha Mullin. Band directors for the Louisville band program are Jesse Yates, Tim Avant, and Amber Roland.

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ECCC students aim to "Keep Decatur Beautiful"

By Bill Graham
Appeal Managing Editor

Come spring, Decatur will look a little nicer, thanks to the efforts of a group of East Central Community College students.

Meeting with town officials and representatives from the Chamber of Commerce and community clubs Thursday, students Shaun Cooper and Matthew Naylor got the go-ahead to organize a clean-up project for the town.

"We want to get as much community involvement as we can, " Cooper told the group.

Naylor and Cooper, along with fellow Phi Theta Kappa member Caiti Slay, spearheaded the project.

It is part of an ongoing effort by the students to beautify the town-they're already fighting litter and encouraging other students to recycle on the EC campus.

The date hasn't been set yet, but Curt Skipper, an ECCC biology instructor helping sponsor the drive, said the event will fall between March 1-May 31.

Cooper said once the date is set, there will be a "wealth of volunteers" from the college to help in the actual cleanup, which will be part of Keep America Beautiful.

ECCC Biology instructor Curt Skipper, Decatur Mayor Bruce Cater, and EC students Shaun Cooper and Matthew Naylor, after meeting last Thursday Cooper and Naylor have spearheaded an effort to beautify the town.

WEEK OF 3-9-09

ECCC CLINIC FEATURES TOP MUSICIANS

SUBMITTED PHOTO

These area high school band members received First Band, First Chair honors at the 27th Annual East Central Community College Invitational Band Clinic held Jan. 30-31 on the Decatur campus. Honorees and their respective schools include (first row, from left) Derrick Jones, Forest; Helen Echazabal, Morton; Stacy Willis, Union; Andrew Kiepe, Neshoba; Amber Bell, Scott Central; Wykenshia Patrick, Forest; and Jason Mann, Newton County; and (back row, from left) Proby Gammill III, Lake; Nicholas Fugua, Scott Central; Eric Michelletti, Nikki Slade and Ruby Stewart, all of Neshoba Central; and Casey Sharp, Newton. Approximately 190 students representing 15 district schools participated in the two-day event, culminated with a concert Saturday, Jan. 31 in Huff Auditorium. Guest clinicians for the first and second bands, respectively, were directors Mickey Mangum of Kosciusko High School and Marbeth Gray of Magee Junior High School. The clinic is under the supervision of Thomas W. Carson, ECCC director of bands.

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WEEK OF 3/9/09

ECCC announces FBLA Central District Winners

East Central Community College recently announced winners of the 2009 Central District Conference of Future Business Leaders of America held recently on the Decatur campus. All winners advance to state competition.

Central district categories and winners included:

Accounting I: Jessica Shepard, second, Forest/Scott County Career and Technology Center.

Banking and Financial Systems: third, Newton County Academy: Lorin Hamrick, Leanne Killen and Matthew Brown.

Business Communications: Andrew Hannah, first place, Newton County Academy; Billie Joyce Colbert, second, Forest/Scott County Career and Technology Center.

Business Law: Edward Walker, first place, Newton Career Center; Jasmine Amos, sixth, Forest/Scott County Career and Technology Center.

Business Math: Jessica Massey, sixth, Newton County Academy.

Computer Applications:Erica Williams, third, Forest/Scott County Career and Technology Center.

Computer Problem Solving: Kevin Marchanct, fourth, Forest/Scott County Career and Technology Center; Jenisa Tubby, fifth, Newton County Career Center; and Darius Wells, sixth, Newton Career Center.

Desktop Publishing: Shayathia Earnest; third, Newton County Career Center: Grace Anderson and Lauren Lurk; fourth, Newton Career Center: Tyeshia Meeks and Kenyatta McKee; fifth, Newton County Academy: Michael Hamrick and Bubba Holmes.

Economics: Siyu Cai, first, Newton County Academy; Kacynthia Perry, fifth, Forest/Scott County Career and Technology Center.

FBLA Principles and Procedures: Natalie Bounds, sixth, Newton County Academy.

Introduction to Business Communication: Hannah Smith, second, Newton County Academy.

Introduction to Parliamentary Procedures: Jade Stockstill, first place, Newton County Career Center.

Job Interview: Celia Boggan, third, Newton County Career Center.

Marketing: Cameshia Buckley, sixth, Forest/Scott County Career and Technology Center.

Networking Concepts: Amanda Williamson, fifth, Forest/Scott County Career and Technology Center.

Parliamentary Procedure: first place, Newton County Career Center: Michelle Sessions, Justin Wilson, Jordan Hammons, Kellee Still and Ryan Gillis; third, Newton County Academy: Heather Jenkins, Anne Henderson, Clint Walker, Haley Todd and Colby Harvey.

Personal Finance: LaVetta Hayes, third, Forest/Scott County Career and Technology Center.

Technology Concepts: Garrit Tharp, first place, Forest/Scott County Career and Technology Center; Jenina Tubby, third, Newton County Career Center.

Word Processing I: Kara Massey, fourth, Newton County

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WEEK OF 3/9/09

EC cheerleaaers aim for nationals

Fundraising efforts are under way to send the East Central Community Col-lege cheerleading squad to the National Cheerleader Association Collegiate Nationals in Daytona Beach, Fla. April 8-12.

The squad, including two area members, received a bid to compete after submitting videos of the group's performance during the 2008 football season, according to cheerleader coach Huellen Watson.

Members include Cayla Boyd, of Carthage, and Emily Thrash, of Sebastopol.

Watson said the ECCC cheerleaders will compete in the junior college division against other two-year colleges from across the country.

In a letter to alumni and friends of the College, ECCC President Dr. Phil A. Sutphin asked financial support to send the cheerleaders to their first-ever national competition. Cost of the trip is estimated at $12,000.

"The Warrior Cheerleaders have done their part and now we need your help in funding their well-deserved trip to the national competition," Dr. Sutphin stated.

Squad members also include Randy Carl Arledge and Daniel Cheatham (mascot), both of Neshoba Central; Erin Huffman, West Lauderdale; Will Emmons, Lake; Jonathan Federick and Adrienne McDill, both of Newton County; Abby McMillan, Daniel Steverson and Anna Williams, all of Newton County Academy; Kolby Sisson, Noxapater; and Paul David Hatcher, Winston Academy.

Contributions are tax-deductible when made payable to the East Central Community College Foundation, Inc. Contributions should also be earmarked "National Cheerleader Competition."

For more information telephone the Office of Foundation and Alumni Relations, 601-635-2111 or, toll free, 877-462-3222, ext. 327, or e-mail sholling@eccc.edu.

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WEEK OF 2-9-09

ECCC Students Learn CPR...East Central Community College student Michaela Lee (third from left) of Preston demonstrates the proper CPR techniques while others look on during training for the life-saving technique held recently in Kim Hardy's Anatomy and Physiology II class on the Decatur campus. Also pictured are (from left) Brandi Reynolds of Conehatta, Sha Coleman of Decatur, Roshun Towner of Lake and CPR instructor Dale Yates. Each student in the class received CPR certification following the training. Hardy said she supplements the study of the cardiovascular and respiratory systems with application of CPR understanding. Yates, an American Red Cross-certified CPR instructor, is a firefighter/chief in Union and firefighter/EMT in Philadelphia. He has served as an EMT (Emergency Medical Technician) since 1983.

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WEEK OF 3/16/09

Loose, footloose, kick off your Sunday shoes

Please, Louise, pull me offa my knees

These students from Newton County will take part in the East Central Community College Players production of "Footloose," scheduled at 7 p.m. Tuesday, March 31 and Thursday through Saturday, April 2-4, in the Vickers Fine Arts Center Auditorium on the Decatur campus. Matinee performances are also scheduled for 9 a.m. on Tuesday, March 31, Wednesday, April 1, and Friday, April 3, and 2 p.m. on Sunday, April 5. Students and their respective high schools include (seated, from left) Lacey Gilmore, Newton County; Anna Laurie Ezell, Union; Casey Rowzee and Ashley Dumas, both of Newton County; Kylie Rigdon, Union; Emilee Lanier, Newton County; Ayla Smith of Decatur, Mississippi School for the Arts; Sherry Farmer of Hickory, Camp Shelby Youth Challenge Program; and Tiffany Spence, Newton County; and (back row, from left) Jody Lawson, Newton County; J'Markus Dubose, Union; Aaron Morrison, Newton County Academy; and Drew Harrison and Colton Amis, both of Newton County.

Tickets on sale

Tickets for all evening performances and the Sunday matinee are $10. Weekday matinees are $5 per person. They are on sale now.

For more information or to reserve tickets call 1-601-635-2111 or toll free 1-877-462-3222.

Jack, get back, C'mon before we crack

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WEEK OF 3/23/09

ECCC CHOOSES SOPHOMORE CLASS FAVORITES

SUBMITTED PHOTO

The Sophomore class favorites for 2008-09 have been announced for East Central Community College in Decatur, following a recent student body election. Those elected include: (front row, from left) Becky Culpepper of Scott Central, Kacy Covert of West Lauderdale, Emily Thrash of Sebastopol and Calli Cumberland of Newton County; (back row, from left) Jack Edmondson of Nanih Waiya, McClain Mullins of Faith Christian School and Aaron Mann of Carthage. Not pictured is Nathan Chaney of Neshoba Central.

Spring Concert set March 26

An evening of musical entertainment is scheduled Thursday, March 26 when the East Central Community College Spring Band Concert is held on the Decatur campus.

The annual program begins at 7 p.m. in Huff Auditorium and features performances by the concert band, jazz band and percussion ensemble.

There is no charge for admission.

For more information contact Thomas W. Carson, director of bands, or Jared Brownlee, assistant director, (601) 635-2111 or call toll free, (877) 462-3222, ext. 228 or 306. The e-mail addresses are tcarson@eccc.edu and jbrownlee@eccc.edu.

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WEEK OF 3/30/09

Cooper is Academic All-American

East Central Community College sophomore Shaun Cooper of Newton was recently named to the 2009 All-Miss. Academic Team, an annual recognition sponsored by the Mississippi Association of Community and Junior Colleges, the State Board for Community and Junior Colleges, The Clarion-Ledger and Phi Theta Kappa, the international honor society for two-year colleges.

Cooper was presented with a $1,000 stipend. He will also compete for placement on the national All-USA Academic Team for Community Colleges, sponsored by USA Today, Phi Theta Kappa and the American Association of Community Colleges.

Cooper, a President's List scholar with a 3.95 grade point average, was also recently chosen a 2009 COCA-COLA Silver Scholar as a result of test scores in the All-USA Academic Team competition.

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WEEK OF 3/30/09

"There's No Dancing Because..." Rusty (Emilee Lanier of Little Rock, left) Urleen (Casey Rowzee of Newton, third from left) and Wendy Jo (Ayla Smith of Decatur, right) explain to Ren (Drew Harrison of Little Rock, second from left) why there is no dancing in the town of Bomont during this scene from the East Central Community College musical production of "Footloose," which continues performances Wednesday through Sunday. Shows are scheduled at 7 p.m. Thursday through Saturday, April 2-4, in the Vickers Fine Arts Center Auditorium on the Decatur campus. Matinee performances are scheduled at 9 a.m. on Wednesday, April 1, and Friday, April 3, and 2 p.m. on Sunday, April 5. Tickets for all evening performances and the Sunday matinee are $10. Weekday matinees are $5 per person. For more information or to reserve tickets call 1-601-635-2111 or toll free 1-877-462-3222. (EC Photo)

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WEEK OF 4/6/09

ECCC newspaper staff receives awards

DECATUR — East Central Community College's student newspaper, *The Tom-Tom*, was among the top student newspapers in the state recognized during the O.C. McDavid Journalism Conference held March 26 at the Ag & Forestry Museum in Jackson. East Central students earned six awards in the Mississippi Press Association's Better Newspaper Contest in the Community and Junior College Division, including, three second place and three third place awards. Receiving second place honors were Zachary Eaves, Best General News Story; Tyler Watkins, Best General News Photograph; and Anthony Williams, Best Cartoon. Awarded third place honors were Shaun Cooper, Best General Interest Column; Zachary Eaves, Best Investigative Package; and *The Tom-Tom* staff, Best Design. Newspaper staff members attended the conference along with community colleges and universities throughout the state.

SUBMITTED PHOTO

***The Tom-Tom* staffers in attendance included (front, from left) Santigous Culpepper of Forest; Shardae Foley of Hickory; Randall Hudson and Teddy Bloodsaw, both of Forest; Kayla Hampton of Louisville; Leslie Crawford of Decatur; Tyler Watkins of Forest; Shaun Cooper, opinions editor, of Decatur; Ashley Dumas of Decatur; Kylie Rigdon, editor, of Union; Aaron Morrison of Newton; T.J. Underwood of Sebastopol; and J'Markus Dubose of Union; (back from left) Zachary Eaves of Louisville; Samantha Kinard of Noxapater; Veronica Smith of Forest; Dexter McDonald of Jackson; Stephanie Lunsford of Collinsville Jody Lawson of Hickory; and Hannah McCloud of Chunky. *The Tom-Tom* is advised by Gennie Phillips-Odom.**

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WEEK OF 4/6/09

Collegians To Present Campus Concert April 13...The Collegians, East Central Community College's Rock-N-Roll Band, will present their fall campus concert at 8 p.m. Monday, April 13, in Huff Auditorium. The popular group will perform hits by Kelly Clarkson, Saving Abel, David Cooke, Taylor Swift and many other artists. Special guests will be "Rico and the Border Patrol." Admission is free and the public is invited to attend. Collegian members and their respective high schools include (front row, from left) Dustin Gibbs, Lake; Drew Harrison, Newton County; Nathan Spears, Neshoba Central; Brandon Hughes, Newton County; Lana Adkins, Union; Tiffany Spence, Newton County; Allison Rogers, Louisville; and Mikail Serio, Carthage; (second row, from left) Graylon Foster, Philadelphia; Ruby McCurdy, Carthage; Chris Smith, Union; and Christina Gibbs, Lake; and (back row, from left) Logan McDonald, Newton County; Cody Thrash, Sebastopol; Kristina Harrison, Union; Matt Moore, Morton; John David Bates, Neshoba Central; Emily Malone, Carthage; Josh Talbert, a home-schooler from Newton; Lacey Gilmore and Anthony Williams, both of Newton County; Chris Corley, Leake Academy; and Clay Winstead, Neshoba Central. ECCC Director of Bands Thomas W. Carson serves as director and also plays guitar. (EC Photo)

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WEEK OF 4/6/09

ECCC Students Participating In BSU Mission Trip...While many college students observed spring break on the beaches of Florida or just goofing off, these Baptist Student Union members at East Central Community College in Decatur spent their time away from studies by doing mission work in Kansas City, Missouri. Some of the group's activities included traveling to Basehor, Kansas and distributing flyers to more than 1,500 homes advertising a community Easter gathering; working with Nall Avenue Baptist Church in Prairie View, Kansas, where students and directors led the church youth during a four-day "Disciple Now" program; and working the campus of their host, Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Kansas City, where they participated in various beautification projects. Participating in the week-long mission trip were (front row, from left) Brittany Morrison, Newton; Nichole Franklin and Brittany Snow, both of Philadelphia; Becky Culpepper, Forest; Krystal Ward, Philadelphia; Anna Laurie Ezelle, Union; and Anna Fulton, Louisville, and (back row, from left) Brian Felton, Chunky; Kolby Sisson, Philadelphia, Lisa and Scott Vaughn (BSU director) and Cameron Crowell, all of Decatur; Cassidy Crenshaw, assistant BSU director, and Dru Crenshaw, both of Hickory; Aaron Morrison, Newton; Anna Johnson, Union; and Drew Crowell and Josh Ledford, both of Forest. Participants not pictured are Jana Johnson of Morton, Jordan Gunn of Forest and Bethany Latham of Morton. (EC Photo)

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

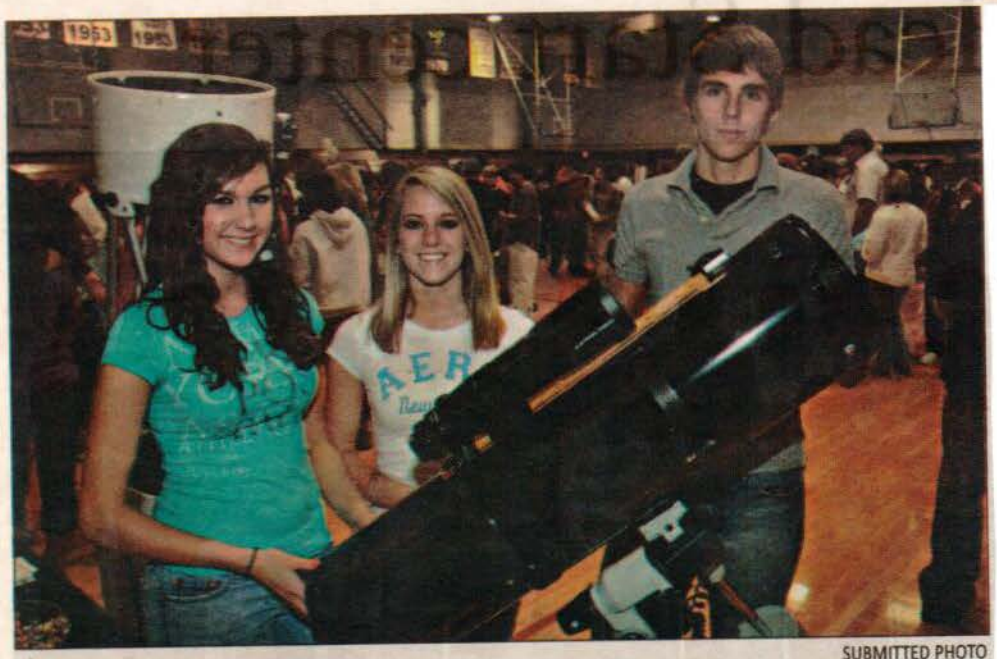
NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON COUNTY APPEAL ✓

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

Students participate

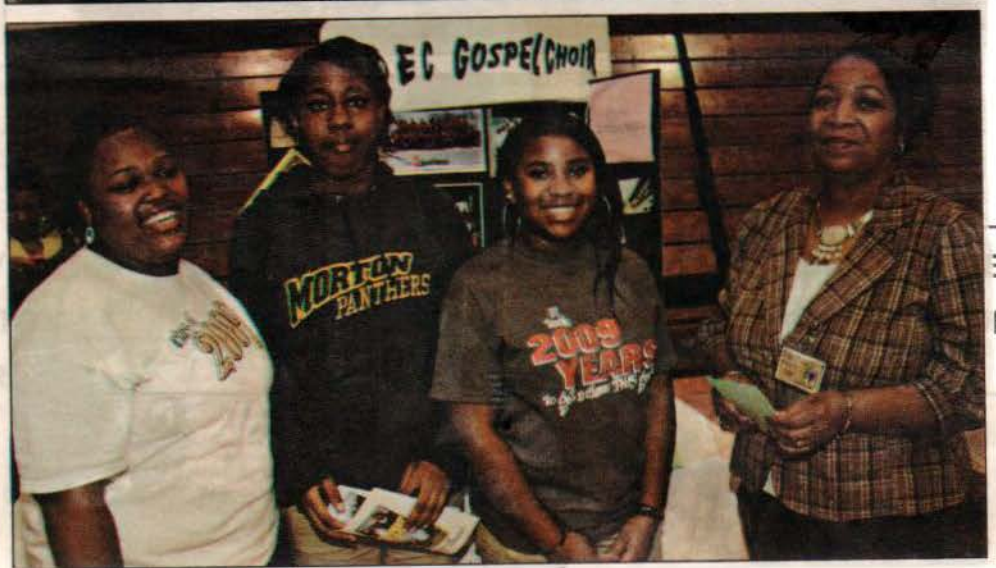


SUBMITTED PHOTO

Sebastopol High School seniors (from left) Lauren Davidson, Lindsey Bishop and Jake Martinson check out the Newtonian Reflecting Telescope on display at the Astronomy Club booth during East Central Community College's annual Senior Day activities held recently on the Decatur campus.

SUBMIITTED PHOTO

Lake High School seniors (from left) Kiswana Burnside and Shaquinta Ickom visit with East Central Community College's Gennie Phillips-Odom, who serves as publications coordinator and sponsor of *The Tom Tom* student newspaper and Wo-He-Lo yearbook, during the annual Senior Day activities



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in Senior Day

SUBMITTED PHOTO

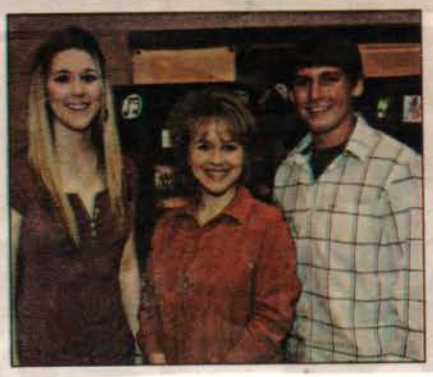
East Central Community College mathematics instructor Haywood Reeves (left) of Forest visits with Scott County students (from left) Drew Evans and Tayler Cox, both of Forest, Jordan Blissett of Lake and Jennifer Moore of Forest during Senior Day activities.

SUBMITTED PHOTO

ECCC freshman Rachel Ramirez (left) of Forest provides information on the Sigma Sigma Mu Tau medical club to (from left) Kayla Worrell and Kristen Poss, both of Scott Central, and Kelly Windham of Forest.

SUBMITTED PHOTO

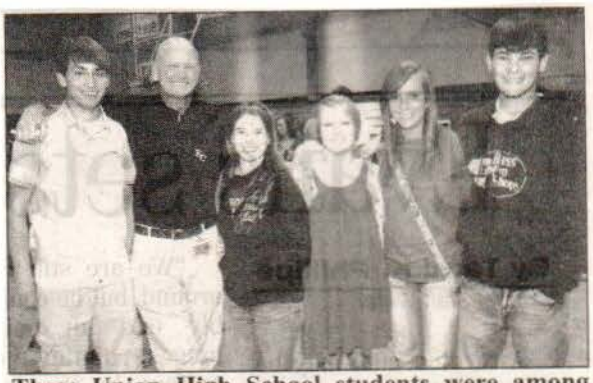
Morton High School seniors (from left) Jasmine Battle, Ashley Shepard and Amy Rhodes visit with East Central Community College Gospel Choir sponsor Brenda K. Johnson (right) during the College's annual Senior Day activities held recently on the Decatur campus. The day's activities included an Information Showcase in the Brackeen-Wood Physical Education Building featuring all campus clubs and organizations as well as information on academic, career and technical programs.



SUBMITTED PHOTO

ECCC music instructor Natalie Emmons (center) visits with Scott County students Laura Gunn (left) of Lake and Daniel Watkins (right) of Sebastopol.

WEEK OF 4/20/09



These Union High School students were among area seniors participating in East Central Community College's annual Senior Day activities held recently on the Decatur campus and are pictured with ECCC Vice President for Student Services Joe Killens (second from left). Pictured are (from left) Matt Griffin, Killens, Stacy Willis, Jamie Truhett, Yancey Tillman and Zac White. The event concluded with lunch on the mall. For more information or to schedule a visit on campus, contact Joe Killens, Vice President for Student Services, at 601-635-6205. The e-mail address is killens@eccc.edu <mailto:jkillens@eccc.edu> .

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

MERIDIAN STAR ✓

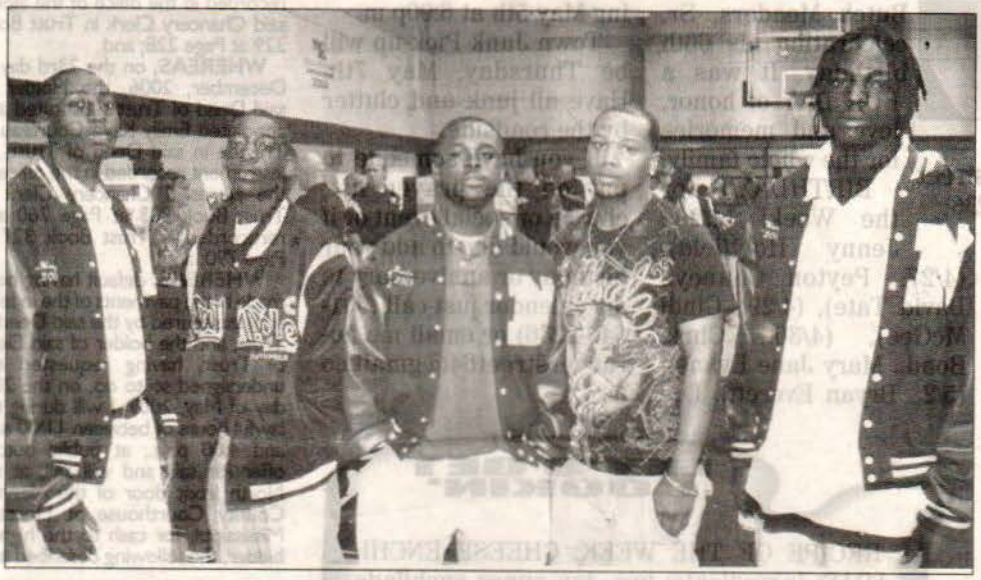
NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON COUNTY APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF April 27, 2009



Newton Students Attend ECCC Senior Day...These students from Newton High School were among area seniors participating in East Central Community College's annual Senior Day activities held recently on the Decatur campus. Pictured are (from left) Keondre Hodges, Mitchell Breland, Kevin Harris, Cedric Harris and Cordarius Windham. The day's activities included an Information Showcase in the Brackeen-Wood Physical Education Building featuring all campus clubs and organizations as well as information on academic, career, and technical programs. Also on tap were performances by the Collegians rock-n-roll band, Ac'cents show choir and the Percussion Ensemble.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

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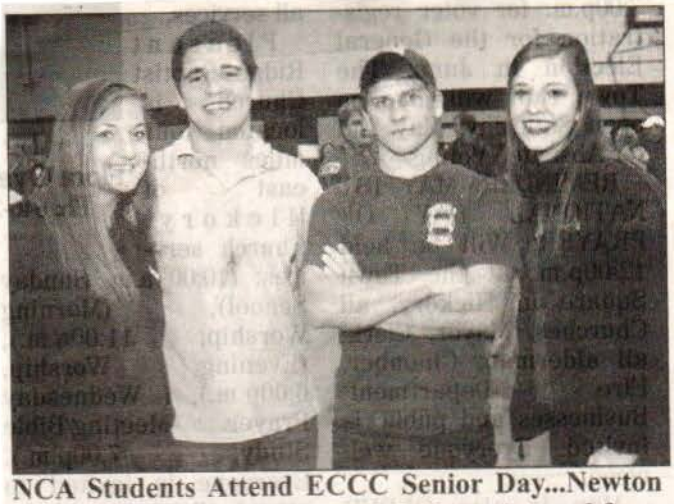
WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF April 27, 2009



NCA Students Attend ECCC Senior Day...Newton County Academy seniors Rob Roberts (second from left) and Justin Dearman (third from left) were among area seniors participating in East Central Community College's annual Senior Day activities held recently on the Decatur campus. They are shown with ECCC freshmen Abby McMillan (left) and Casey Rowzee, both of Newton. For more information or to schedule a visit on campus, contact Joe Killens, Vice President for Student Services, at 601-635-6205. The e-mail address is jkillens@eccc.edu <mailto:jkillens@eccc.edu>. (EC Photo)

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON COUNTY APPEAL √

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

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WEEK OF April 27, 2009

Scott County Officials Attend Tech Prep Meeting at ECCC

Scott County area school district officials were among administrators and career guidance personnel who met recently on the campus of East Central Community College in Decatur for the spring Tech Prep contact meeting. Pictured are (from left) Karla Weir, Lake High School counselor; Debbie Rasco, Morton High School Career Center technician; Melissa Frazier, Morton High School counselor; Sarah Richardson, Morton High School principal; and Karen Moorehead, Forest/Scott County Career and Technology Center counselor. Updates were given by Bobbie Gilkey, who serves as State Tech Prep Division Director for the Mississippi Department of Education; ECCC Tech Prep Coordinator Joan Grimes; James Webb, Career-Technical Director at the Winston-Louisville Vocational Complex; and Larry Gressett, who serves as technology director for the Newton Municipal School District. For more information, contact Grimes at 601-635-6212. The e-mail address is jgrimes@eccc.edu. (EC Photo)

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON ✓

MERIDIAN STAR _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON COUNTY APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

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pril 27, 2009

APPEARED IN:
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SCOTT COUNTY APPEAL ✓
SPIRIT OF MOCRAT
MERIDIAN STAR JOURNAL

Ac'cents members and their respective high schools include (front row, from left) Cody Strait, Brandon Hughes, Kyle Barrett, Lane Fulton and Drew Harrison, all of Newton County; and Aaron Mann, Carthage; and (back row, from left) Casey Rowzee, Newton County Academy; Holly Webb, Forest; Emilee Lanier and Tiffany Spence, both of Newton County; Ayla Smith of Decatur, Mississippi School for the Arts; and Courtney Gammill, Lake. (EC Photo)

EC Ac'cents' concert May 5

The Ac'cents, East Central Community College's show choir, will present their spring campus concert at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, May 5, in Vickers Fine Arts Center Auditorium on the Decatur campus. The public is invited and admission is free.

The popular group will pr sent such hits as "Turn the Beat Around by Gloria Estafan, Nat King Cole's "Unforgettable," "River of Dreams" by Billy Joel, "Show Me The Way" by Styx, "Higher Love" by Steve Winwood, "We're All In This Together" from the hit movie High School Musical and "Unwritten" by Natasha Bedingfield.

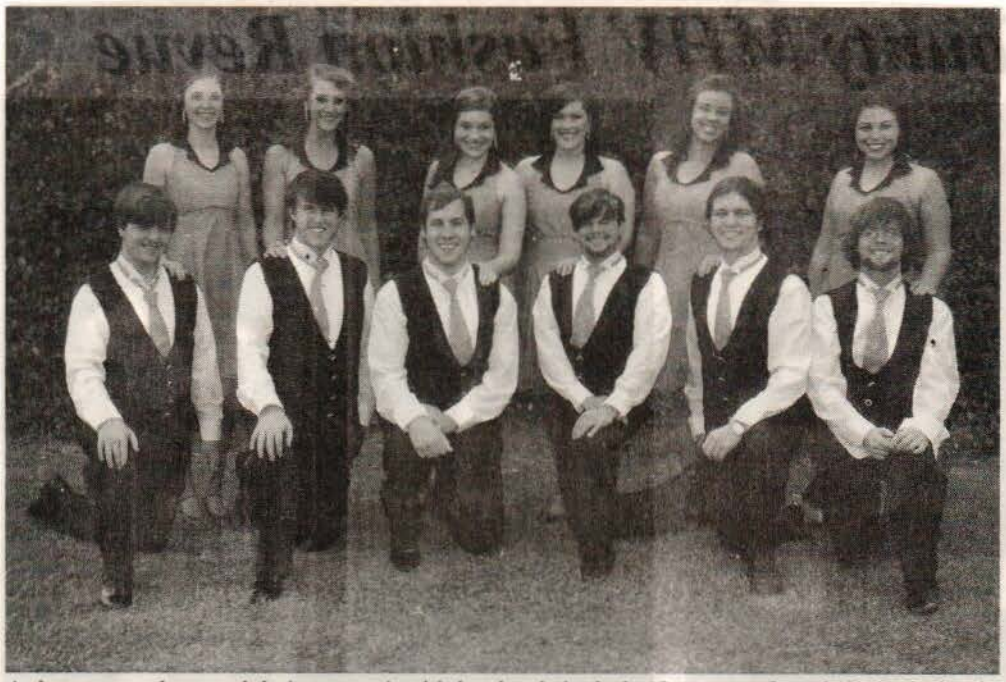
Director Vicki Blaylock said "Once again we will have a variety of music that is sure to entertain everyone. We hope the public will attend and enjoy an evening of song and dance by a talented group."

Ac'cents members and their respective high schools include Casey Rowzee, Newton County Academy; Holly Webb, Forest; Aaron Mann, Carthage; Tiffany Spence, Emilee Lanier, Drew Harrison, Lane Fulton, Cody Strait, Kyle Barrett and Brandon Hughes, all of Newton County; Courtney Gammill, Lake; and Ayla Smith of Decatur, Mississippi School for the Arts.

Logan McDonald of Newton County and Kolby Sisson of Noxapater serve as sound technicians.

For more information or to schedule a performance, contact Blaylock at 601-635-2111, ext. 225, or toll free 1-877-462-3222, ext. 225. The email address is vblaylock@eccc.edu <mailto:vblaylock@eccc.edu> .

WEEK OF April 27, 2009



Ac'cents members and their respective high schools include (front row, from left) Cody Strait, Brandon Hughes, Kyle Barrett, Lane Fulton and Drew Harrison, all of Newton County; and Aaron Mann, Carthage; and (back row, from left) Casey Rowzee, Newton County Academy; Holly Webb, Forest; Emilee Lanier and Tiffany Spence, both of Newton County; Ayla Smith of Decatur, Mississippi School for the Arts; and Courtney Gammill, Lake. (EC Photo)

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APPEARED IN:

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WEEK OF May 4, 2009

ECCC ANNOUCES SPRING ART CONTEST WINNERS

SUBMITTED PHOTO

These East Central Community College students received top honors in the annual Spring Art Show held on the Decatur campus. From left are Keia Eichelberger of Louisville, Best in Show; Billy Joe Cunningham of Union, Award of Excellence in Drawing; Corbin Hurst of Hickory, Award of Excellence in Design; Brandi Tollett of Louisville, Award of Excellence in Painting; and Holly Webb of Forest, Award of Excellence in Printmaking. Also pictured is Christopher Brady, ECCC art instructor.

APPEARED IN:

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WEEK OF May 4, 2009
Awards

ECCC PBL students

These members of Theta Chi Chapter of Phi Beta Lambda at East Central Community College received special honors during the state Leadership Conference held in Tupelo. Pictured are (seated, from left) Rebecca Rogers of Chunky, recognized for being a state officer and selected to Who's Who in PBL; and Laura Pearson of Louisville, PBL Hall of Fame; and (standing, from left) Jonathan Federick of Hickory and Dexter McDonald of Jackson, both selected for Who's Who in PBL; and Josh Dickerson of Union, recognized as a state officer, Who's Who in PBL and PBL Hall of Fame. Theta Chi Chapter also received Foundation Member, Special Foundation and March of Dimes recognition in addition to being named a Gold Seal Chapter, awarded to the top two chapters in the state. (EC Photo)

APPEARED IN:

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WEEK OF May 4, 2009

Scholarships

Crosby wins Presidential Scholarship at ECCC

Jeri Lynn Crosby, a senior at Scott Central Attendance Center, was recently awarded a Presidential Scholarship for East Central Community College for the 2009 fall semester. To qualify for this scholarship, students must demonstrate qualities of academic achievement, intellectual ability and leadership potential. In addition to exhibiting all of these attributes, Jeri Lynn is graduating a year early so she may continue her higher education at East Central. Jeri Lynn is the daughter of Terry and Stacy Crosby of Forest.

APPEARED IN:

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WEEK OF May 4, 2009

Orientation/enrollment

Recruiting ECCC Students

David Cobb of Northrop Grumman Ship Systems in Pascagoula recently visited the East Central Community College campus and is shown making a recruiting presentation to welding, machine shop and electrical technology students. Cobb said Northrop Grumman has an immediate need for welders and also plans to hire machinists and electricians in the very near future. (EC Photo)

APPEARED IN:

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WEEK OF May 4, 2009

Five were ECCC students

Five of the suspects were arrested on the campus of East Central Community College, said Decatur Police Chief Joedy Pennington.

Eric Wagner, 19, Taylor Booker, 20, Wess Compton, 21, Jamell Holifield, 20, and Donell McDowell, 23, each were charged with sale of a controlled substance, specifically marijuana. Compton was released Monday on a $20,000 bond, while the other suspects remained in custody Tuesday, each on $20,000 bond.

Some may face additional charges for sale of a controlled substance within 1500 feet of a school, said Pennington. If convicted, they could face double the normal penalty under state law.

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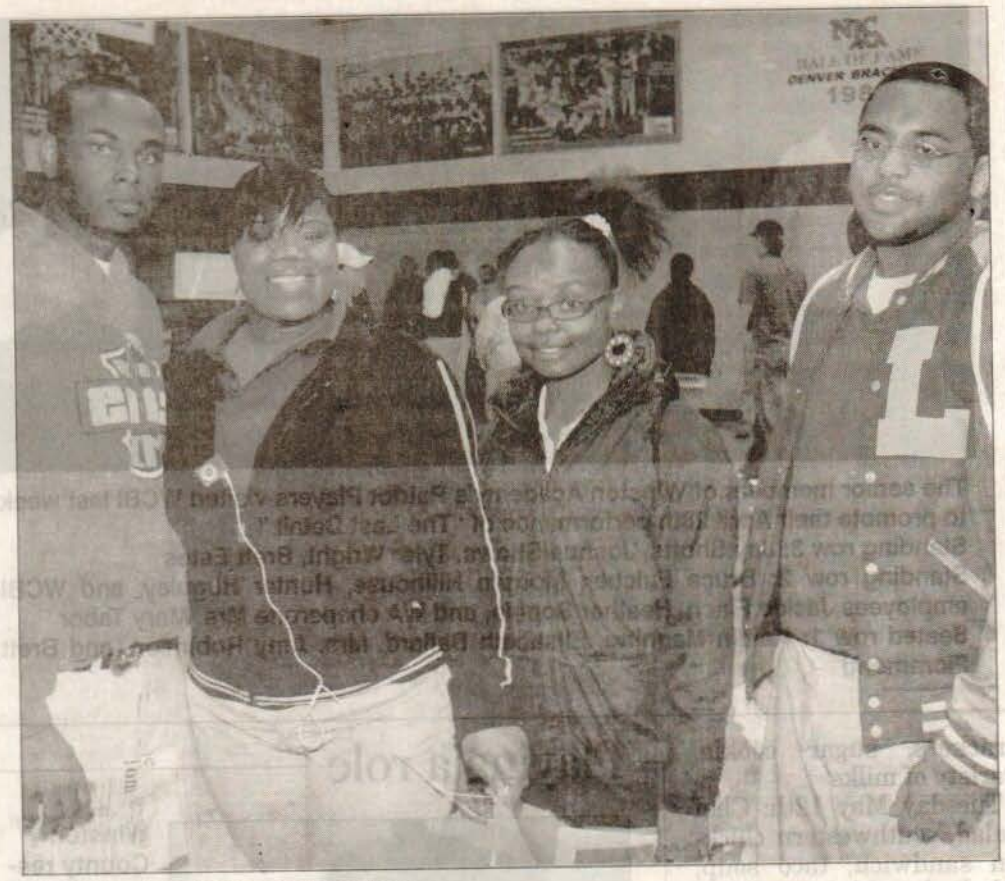
WEEK OF May 4, 2009

Events

Visit ECCC



Participate in ECCC Senior Day

These Louisville High School students were among area seniors participating in East Central Community College's annual Senior Day activities held recently on the Decatur campus. Pictured are (from left) Romier Owens, Evette Stone, Viveion Wraggs and L.C. Moore. The day's activities included an Information Showcase in the Brackeen-Wood Physical Education Building featuring all campus clubs and organizations as well as information on academic, career, and technical programs. Also on tap were performances by the Collegians rock-n-roll band, Ac'cents show choir and the Percussion Ensemble. The event concluded with lunch on the mall. For more information or to schedule a visit on campus, contact Joe Killens, Vice President for Student Services, at 601-635-6205.

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WEEK OF May 4, 2009

Nanih Waiya students visit

Nanih Waiya Students Attend ECCC Senior Day

These Nanih Waiya High School students were among area seniors participating in East Central Community College's annual Senior Day activities held recently on the Decatur campus. Pictured are (front row, from left) Wade Fulton, Stephanie Lee, Megan Holdiness, Kelsie Boykin and Zack Darby; and (back row, from left) Tayler Yarbrough, Olivia Higgason, Brittany Duncan, William Lipsey, Samantha Holdiness, David Bond, Justin Bates, Stewart Frey and Robert Hisaw. The day's activities included an Information Showcase in the Brackeen-Wood Physical Education Building featuring all campus clubs and organizations as well as information on academic, career, and technical programs. Also on tap were performances by the Collegians rock-n-roll band, Ac'cents show choir and the Percussion Ensemble. The event concluded with lunch on the mall. For more information or to schedule a visit on campus, contact Joe Killens, Vice President for Student Services, at 601-635-6205.

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CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF May 11, 2009

East Central Community College recently announced inductees to the 2009 Hall of Fame, the highest honor a student can receive at the College. They include (seated, from left) Emily Thrash of Sebastopol and Megan Munn of Decatur; and (standing, from left) Shaun Cooper of Newton, Daniel Johnson of Union, Kyle Barrett of Decatur and Joshua Dickerson of Union. The honorees were announced during Awards Day activities held May 7 in Huff Auditorium. Their photos will hang in the Hall of Fame Collection in the lobby of Huff Auditorium.

APPEARED IN:

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MERIDIAN STAR _____

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WEEK OF May 11, 2009

ECCC skills

These East Central Community College students won first-place honors in their respective areas of competition at the Mississippi SkillsUSA Championships held at Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College. Seated from left are Josh Steele of Newton, CNC Turning; Jonathan Chapman of Newton, Collision Repair; Patrick Griffin of Union, Major Appliance Repair; Jermaine Glass of Union, Brandie Holifield of Philadelphia, Holly Tanner of Ethel and Courtney Cravens of Louisville, Occupational Safety and Health Single. Standing from left are Kimberly Wareing of Forest, Takeila Stephens of Meridian, Melissa Kleinschmidt and Brooke Barrett, both of Union; Mecklin Soules of Heidelberg, Magan Lancaster of Union and Kandace Smith of Collinsville, Opening and Closing Team; and Jessica Smith of Forest and Marsha Reed of Louisville, Promotional Bulletin Board. Chapman is the third straight first-place winner in the Collision Repair competition for instructor Conrad Germany. All first-place winners advance to the National SkillsUSA Leadership Conference scheduled in Kansas City, MO, June 23-26, 2009. Second-place winners were Jesse Holloway of Decatur, Cabinetmaking; Felicia Patrick of Philadelphia, Culinary Arts; Bruce Manning of Noxapater, CNC Milling; Cody Buckey of Forest, Residential Wiring; and Austin Vernon of Louisville, Welding. Winning third-place honors were Austin Mather of Decatur, Auto Mechanics; Mark Ishee of Louin, Industrial Motor Control; and Cayla Yates of Union, Job Skills Demonstration. (EC Photo)

APPEARED IN:

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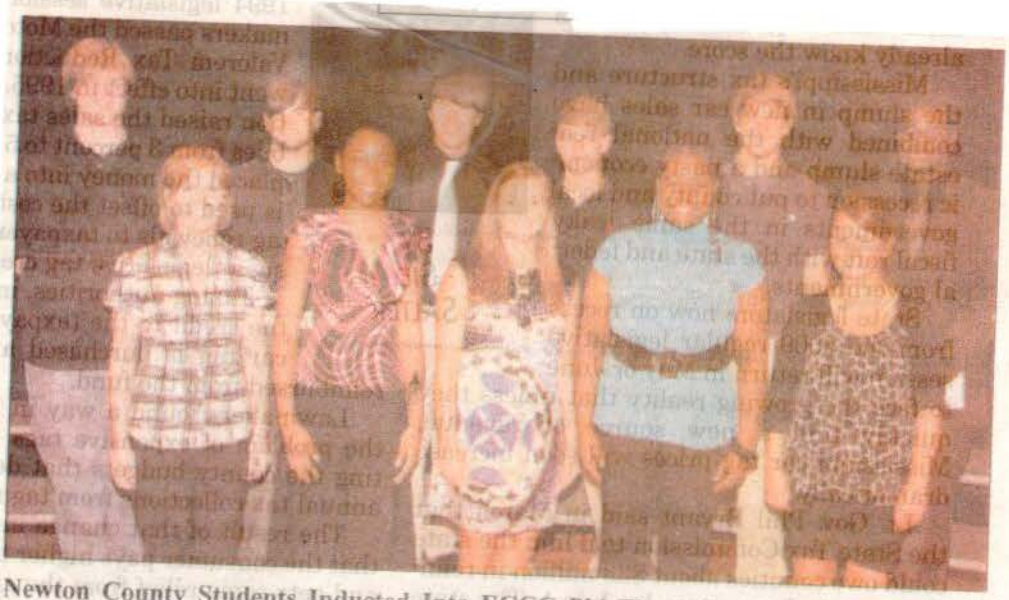
WEEK OF May 11, 2009



Newton County Students Inducted Into ECCC Phi Theta Kappa Chapter...Newton County area students recently inducted into Theta Xi Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa, the international honor society for two-year colleges, at East Central Community College in Decatur, included (front row, from left) Hannah Watkins of Union, Kanisha Warnsley and Abby McMillan, both of Newton; Kim Amerson of Decatur and Kayla Meaders of Newton; and (back row, from left) Kyle Ethridge and Lane Fulton, both of Decatur; Brandon Hughes of Union, Colton Amis and Jason Hancock, both of Decatur; and Bobby Eaton of Hattiesburg. Not pictured are Racheal Addy and Brandi Covington, both of Little Rock; Katharyn Benson, Shellie Germany, Lacey Gilmore and Morgan Whitlock, all of Union; Elise Gibbs, Adrienne McDill and Emily Pace, all of Newton, Brittany Cochran and Chelsea Pugh, both of Hickory; and Benton Cotton of Decatur. The purpose of Phi Theta Kappa is to promote scholarship, to develop character and to cultivate fellowship among academically superior students. Membership is by invitation only. To be eligible, students must have earned a 3.5 or better grade point average as a full-time student and have an overall grade point average of 3.5 or better. Kate Covich and Curt Skipper serve as advisers. (EC Photo)

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WEEK OF May 11, 2009

Organizations / Clubs

EC Centralettes set for '09-10

Members of the Centralettes, the dance line for the East Central Community College Wall O' Sound Marching Band, have been selected for 2009-10.

Squad members include Ariel Doggert, Edinburg; Hannah Watkins and Lindsey Bishop, both of Sebastopol; Savanna Smith, Newton County; Jordan Harrell and Bailey Brown, both of East Rankin Academy; Sarah Breland, Paige Richardson and Erin Hall, all of Neshoba Central;

Alison Lowrey, Winston Academy; Denetra Darden, Kimberly Blackwell, Lauren Luke and Anna Fulton (captain), all of Nanih Waiya; Emily Hathorn, Louisville; Jaqlene Robinson, Noxapater; Samantha Elkins and Rachel Ramirez, both of Forest; and Jamie Vance, Union.

For more information on the ECCC band program telephone Thomas W. Carson at 601-635-2111 or, toll free, 877-462-3222, ext. 228, or e-mail tcarson@eccc.edu.

APPEARED IN:

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New students inducted into ECCC honor society

special to the star

DECATUR – East Central Community College's Theta Xi Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa, the international honor society for two-year colleges, recently held induction ceremonies for more than 90 new members selected for the prestigious organization.

The purpose of Phi Theta Kappa is to promote scholarship, to develop character and to cultivate fellowship among academically superior students. Membership is by invitation only. To be eligible, students must have earned a 3.5 or better grade point average as a full-time student and have an overall grade point average of 3.5 or better. Kate Covich and Curt Skipper serve as advisors.

Inductees and their hometowns include:

Carthage: **Jennifer Atkinson, Amelia Burnside, Kasey Crutcher, Connor Herrington, Drew Johnston, Tywana Peavy** and **Sylinda Scott.**

Conehatta: **Meaghan Mayes**

Decatur: **Kim Amerson, Kyle Ethridge, Lane Fulton, Colton Amis, Jason Hancock** and **Benton Cotton**

Forest: **Brittany Jennings, Krista Thrash, Jordan Gunn** and **Edgar Alvarez, Kristi Bell, Crystal Massey, Rochelsey Thomas** and **Audrianna Walker**

Hattiesburg: **Bobby Eaton**

Hickory: **Brittany Cochran** and **Chelsea Pugh**

Kosciusko: **Kristy Frazier**

Lake: **Alli French** and **Jason Hawthorne**

Lena: **Brandy Greer** of Lena

Little Rock: **Racheal Addy** and **Brandi Covington;**

Louin: **Kurt Simoneau**

Louisville: **Nathan Calvert, Anna Fulton, Lindsey Donald, Brandi Tollett, Kimberly Blackwell, Kyle Donald, Kadie Hailey, Trinelius Triplett, Kaylin Jones, Drew Smith, Jesse Ward** and **Kelsey White**

Meridian: **Marissa Ethridge**

Morton: **Erin Jones**

Newton: **Kanisha Warnsley, Abby McMillan, Kayla Meaders, Elise Gibbs, Adrienne McDill** and **Emily Pace**

Noxapater: **Jaqlene Robinson**

Philadelphia: **Alanna Fairchild, Marlee Deweese, Morgan Deweese, Jordan McMichael, Olivia Lewis, Hannah Lee, Dustin Kilpatrick, Austin Buchanan, Griffin Burk, Cooper Jordan, Tyler McNeil, Nathan Rowell, Emily Breland, Brandon Cox, Amber Madison, Valerie Nicholson, Ashley Stone, April Stribling, Kolby Sisson, Ashley Stone** and **Pamela Townsend**

Sebastopol: **Tara Gilmer**

Tupelo: **Jared Mullins**

Union: **Tabatha Adcock, Mamie Shannon, Leanna Smith, Jennifer Bullard, Hannah Watkins, Brandon Hughes, Marcus Herrington, Katharyn Benson, Shellie Germany, Lacey Gilmore** and **Morgan Whitlock**

Walnut Grove: **Daniel Bankston, Tyler Jones, Emily Thomas, Melissa Ellis** and **Laquindric Stokes**

Butler, Ala.: **Deshawn Harris**

Leesburg, Ala.: **Paul Sewell**

WINSTON COUNTY INDUCTEES

Winston County area students recently inducted into Theta Xi Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa, the international honor society for two-year colleges, at East Central Community College in Decatur, included: front row, from left, Anna Fulton and Kadie Hailey, both of Louisville, Ashley Stone of Philadelphia and Lindsey Donald and Brandi Tollett, both of Louisville; and back row, from left, Kolby Sisson of Philadelphia, Jaqlene Robinson of Noxapater, and Kimberly Blackwell and Kyle Donald, both of Louisville. Not pictured are Trinelius Triplett, Kaylin Jones, Drew Smith, Jesse Ward and Kelsey White, all of Louisville.

Submitted Photos

WEEK OF May 11, 2009

SCOTT COUNTY INDUCTEES

Scott County area students recently inducted into Theta Xi Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa, the international honor society for two-year colleges, at East Central Community College in Decatur, included: front row, from left, Alli French of Lake, Brittany Jennings, Krista Thrash and Audrianna Walker, all of Forest; and Meaghan Mayes of Conehatta; and back row, from left, Jason Hawthorne of Lake, Jordan Gunn and Edgar Alvarez, both of Forest; and Erin Jones of Morton. Also inducted were Kristi Bell, Crystal Massey and Rochelsey Thomas, all of Forest, and Brandy Greer of Lena.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

MERIDIAN STAR ✓

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON COUNTY APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF May 11, 2009

NESHOBA COUNTY INDUCTEES

Neshoba County area students recently inducted into Theta Xi Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa, the international honor society for two-year colleges, at East Central Community College were: front row, from left, Tabatha Adcock of Union, Alanna Fairchild, Marlee Deweese, Jordan McMichael and Olivia Lewis, all of Philadelphia, and Mamie Shannon of Union; second row, from left, Morgan Deweese of Philadelphia, Leanna Smith of Union, Hannah Lee of Philadelphia, Jennifer Bullard of Union and Dustin Kilpatrick of Philadelphia; and (back row, from left) Austin Buchanan of Philadelphia, Nathan Calvert of Louisville, Griffin Burk, Cooper Jordan, Tyler McNeil and Nathan Rowell, all of Philadelphia and Marcus Herrington of Union. Also inducted were: Emily Breland, Brandon Cox, Amber Madison, Valerie Nicholson, Ashley Stone, April Stribling and Pamela Townsend, all of Philadelphia.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

MERIDIAN STAR ✓

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON COUNTY APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF May 11, 2009

LEAKE COUNTY INDUCTEES

Leake County area students recently inducted into Theta Xi Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa, the international honor society for two-year colleges, at East Central Community College in Decatur, included: front row, from left, Jennifer Atkinson, Amelia Burnside, Kasey Crutcher, Tywana Peavy and Sylinda Scott, all of Carthage; and Tara Gilmer of Sebastopol; and back row, from left, Daniel Bankston of Walnut Grove, Drew Johnston of Carthage, Tyler Jones of Walnut Grove, Connor Herrington of Carthage and Emily Thomas of Walnut Grove. Also inducted were Melissa Ellis and Laquindric Stokes, both of Walnut Grove.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

MERIDIAN STAR ✓

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON COUNTY APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF May 18, 2009

Carthaginian

Newton County Students Receive ECCC Nursing Pins...These Newton County students were among East Central Community College graduating sophomores who received pins during the annual Associate Degree Nursing pinning ceremony held May 8 in Huff Auditorium on the Decatur campus. Forty-two students completed the program and were also presented diplomas during the College's commencement exercises held Saturday, May 16, in the Neshoba County Coliseum in Philadelphia. ADN graduates from Newton County include (seated, from left) Christy Gressett of Chunky, Christy Ezell of Decatur, Ashley Castillo of Lawrence and Shannon Harrison of Union; and (standing from left) Cynthia Ledlow of Union; Alisha Hitt of Little Rock; Jennifer Harris of Lawrence; Holly Tullos and Daniel Pickett, both of Hickory; Michelle Galloway of Union; Jessica Dean of Decatur; Lee Blackburn of Newton and Tiffanie Credille of Union. (EC Photo)

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN ____
SCOTT COUNTY TIMES ____
SPIRIT OF MORTON ____
MERIDIAN STAR ____
DEMOCRAT ____
COUNTY APPEAL ✓
COUNTY JOURNAL ____
LEDGER ____

WEEK OF May 18, 2009

ECCC Ac'cents Announced

Members of the Ac'cents show choir have been selected for 2009-10 at East Central Community College in Decatur, announced director Vicki Blaylock.

The talented group includes sopranos Polly Vaughn, Monica Vincent and Tiffany Spence, all products of Newton County High School; altos Laura Gunn of Lake, Casey Rowzee of Newton County Academy and Jessy Harrison of Newton County; tenors Lane Fulton, Brandon Boulton and Brandon Hughes and basses Cody Strait, Drew Harrison and Richie Ferguson, all of Newton County.

Members were chosen following auditions held recently on the Decatur campus.

For more information contact Vicki Blaylock, vocal/choral music instructor, ECCC, 601-635- 6225 or call toll free, 877-462-3222, ext. 225. Her e-mail address is vblaylock@eccc.edu.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON ✓

MERIDIAN STAR _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON COUNTY APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF May 25, 2009

ECCC's NJCAA Academic All-Americans

SUBMITTED PHOTO

Recognized as National Junior College Academic All-Americans for 2008-09 are the above former student-athletes representing East Central Community College in Decatur. Academic All-Americans achieve a minimum 3.6 grade point average and Distinguished Academic All-Americans earn a 3.8 GPA or above. Award recipients must also complete three semesters of college work and participate in at least one season of varsity sports. Honorees and their respective sports area include (seated from left) Academic All-Americans Genny Freeman (softball) of Laurel and Calli Cumberland (softball/soccer) of Decatur. Distinguished Academic All-Americans are (seated right) Emily Thrash (softball) of Sebastopol, and (standing from left) Amber Smith (softball) and Daniel Johnson (golf), both of Union; Justin Traylor (soccer) of Florence and Megan Munn (softball/soccer) of Decatur. NJCAA Academic All-Americans not pictured are Codee Russell (softball) of Madden and Jasen Fairley (football) of Collins. Katherine Taylor (basketball) of Carthage was chosen a Distinguished Academic All-American. The outstanding student-athletes were recognized at the ECCC's 2009 Commencement and will be featured with other honorees throughout the nation in an upcoming issue of the NJCAA publication, *JUCO Review*.

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SCOTT COUNTY TIMES ✓

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

NEWTON COUNTY APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

ECCC graduation speaker emphasizes 'value, character'

Speaking to his fellow East Central Community College graduates, Matt Naylor of Collinsville said the challenge for the Class of 2009 "is to strive not to become men and women of success, but men and women of value and character."

Naylor, a President's List scholar and West Lauderdale High School product, told the approximately 400 graduates assembled for the College's 80th Commencement Saturday at the Neshoba County Coliseum in Philadelphia, that personal success "should not necessarily be the aim of our accomplishments."

"It's not genius, money, power and titles that reflect the greatness of the human soul – it's kindness," Naylor stated. "What good are the qualities that we have gained if we don't impact others in our lives? Success is not measured in numbers; it's the character of a being that brings out success."

Naylor referred to the Bible to further exemplify his point.

"The Apostle Paul said that whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable - if anything is excellent or praiseworthy - these are the things to think and act on," he said. "It is when we apply these virtues to our education and jobs that we truly succeed, and become men and women who not only excel in our careers, but display character that sets us as an example."

Naylor began his remarks on a humorous note by commenting that commencement speeches "were invented largely in the belief that outgoing college students should never be released into the world until they have been properly sedated!"

"Let me assure you that is not my intention today," he said with a smile. "When thinking about what to say to a group of graduating college students, motivation to take initiative is not necessarily the first topic that comes to mind. You have all taken the initiative to further yourself through education, and that is to be commended."

He further commented, "It is time to congratulate the doer, the achiever – the one who recognizes the challenge and does something about it. Today marks a milestone in our lives; it is an accomplishment that will help us decide who we will become."

Naylor also praised East Central for providing an "unforgettable time."

"We have formed relationships with peers and faculty that will have lasting impressions in our lives," he said. "East Central has given us the opportunity to surround ourselves in a welcoming environment, gain one-on-one time with our teachers to better grasp new concepts, take part in extracurricular activities that broaden our lifestyles, and receive a quality education – one we should take pride in – at an incredible cost."

"For some of us," he continued, "today is a stepping stone as we proceed to other institutions while others here mark an end to their training. Though school may be over, let me assure you that graduation still continues in our lives. It's been said that 'the man who graduates today and stops learning tomorrow is uneducated the day after.' Gaining an education is a vital tool to success, but what we do with our education and how we will share it is more important."

Matt Naylor of Collinsville addresses fellow East Central Community College graduates during the College's 80th Commencement held Saturday, May 16 at the Neshoba County Coliseum in Philadelphia. Naylor is a product of West Lauderdale High School. (EC Photo)

In conclusion, Naylor said East Central "has given us the means to further achieve the diverse goals that lie within us."

"As we continue on our journey," he said, "we can proceed with confidence that East Central has well prepared us to enter the workforce or university. And as we go on to whatever may lie before us, let us not forget those who helped get us where we are today. The parents that urged us to persevere, the friends who

See ECCC, page 20

APPEAL
CARTHAGE
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SPIRIT
MERIDIAN
JOURNAL

ECCC graduation emphasizes 'value, character' speaker

SPECIAL TO THE TIMES

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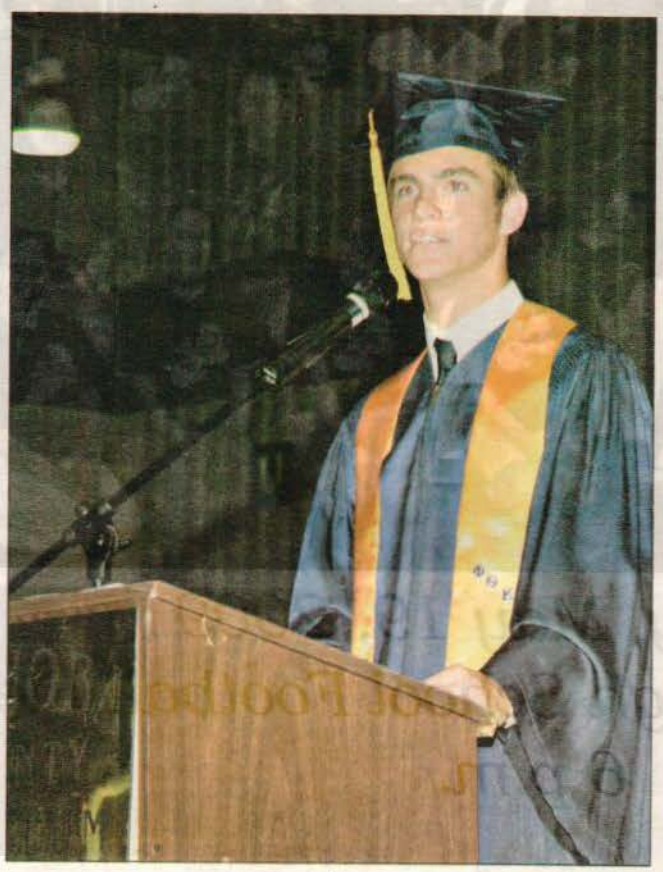

SUBMITTED PHOTO

Matt Naylor of Collinsville addresses fellow East Central Community College graduates during the College's 80th Commencement held Saturday, May 16, 2009, at the Neshoba County Coliseum in Philadelphia. Naylor is a product of West Lauderdale High School.

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"As we continue on ou journey," he said, "we ca proceed with confidenc that East Central has we prepared us to enter th workforce or universit And as we go on to what ever may lie before us, le us not forget those wh helped get us where we a today. The parents tha urged us to persevere, th friends who gave suppo when others were gone and the teachers who len helping hands to see u succeed...we thank you East Central Community College Class of 2009 congratulations!"

In addition to Naylo other graduating sopho mores participating in th commencement progran were Dekota Anthony o Philadelphia, invocation vocalists Anna Lauri Ezelle of Union and Emile Lanier of Little Rock, wh performed "I Was Here" b Gary S. Burr, and Shau Cooper of Newton, bene diction.

ECCC President Dr. Phil A. Sutphin awarded degrees and certificates after candidates were presented by Dr. Lavinia Sparkman, vice president for instruction.

WEEK OF May 25, 2009

ECCC Bride event

White Recites Here Comes the Bride at ECCC Event

Anna White of Louisville was appropriately attired for her dramatic monologue, Here Comes the Bride, presented at the East Central Community College Poetry Coffeehouse held recently on the Decatur campus. White was among students whose work was featured at the annual event, sponsored by the College's Creative Writing Class. White, a business administration major, is a product of Nanih Waiya High School. (EC Photo)

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

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NEWTON COUNTY APPEAL _____

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CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF May 25, 2009

Lanier Presents Children's Story at ECCC Coffeehouse...Emilee Lanier of Little Rock reads – *When I Get Big*, a Children's Story -- during the East Central Community College Poetry Coffeehouse held recently on the Decatur campus. Lanier was among students whose work was featured in the annual event, sponsored by the College's Creative Writing Class. Lanier, a liberal arts major from Little Rock, is a product of Newton County High School. (EC Photo)

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

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NEWTON COUNTY APPEAL ✓

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF May 25, 2009

ECCC names cheerleaders for 2009-10

Members of East Central Community College's cheerleader squad for 2009-10 have been selected, announced Shelley Thoms, who begins her first year as cheer coach.

Female squad members include Ashley Amis and Monica Vincent, both of Decatur; Robyn Fanning of Philadelphia, Adrienne McDill, Abby McMillan, and Anna Williams, all of Newton; Chelsea Jones of Enterprise, and Hannah Alley of McDonough, Ga. Liz Withers of Philadelphia was selected as an alternate.

Male squad members are Will Emmons of Lake, Richie Ferguson of Decatur, Paul Hatcher and Josh Jarriel, both of Philadelphia; Dayton Johnson and Brandon Kennedy, both of Union; and Cody Ming and Dustin Stewart, both of Louisville.

Daniel Steverson of Hickory was chosen Warrior Chief mascot and alternate cheerleader.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

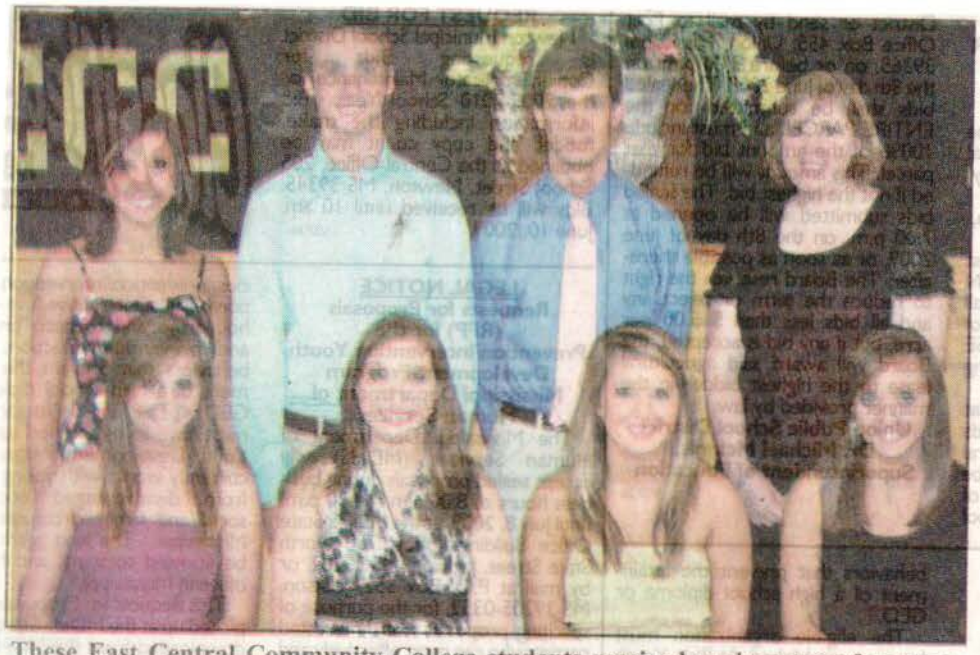
NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON COUNTY APPEAL ✓

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF June 1, 2009



These East Central Community College students received various transfer scholarships to Mississippi University for Women, which were presented during the annual East Central Community College Awards Day ceremonies held May 7 in Huff Auditorium on the Decatur campus. Pictured are (seated, from left) Amber Smith of Union, Emilee Lanier of Little Rock, Joy Hayes of Decatur and Autumn Durant of Preston; and (standing, from left) Candi Vance of Decatur, Matt Naylor of Collinsville and Aaron Morrison of Decatur. At right is Brandi Watkins, MUW representative, who made the presentations. (EC Photo)

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

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MERIDIAN STAR _____

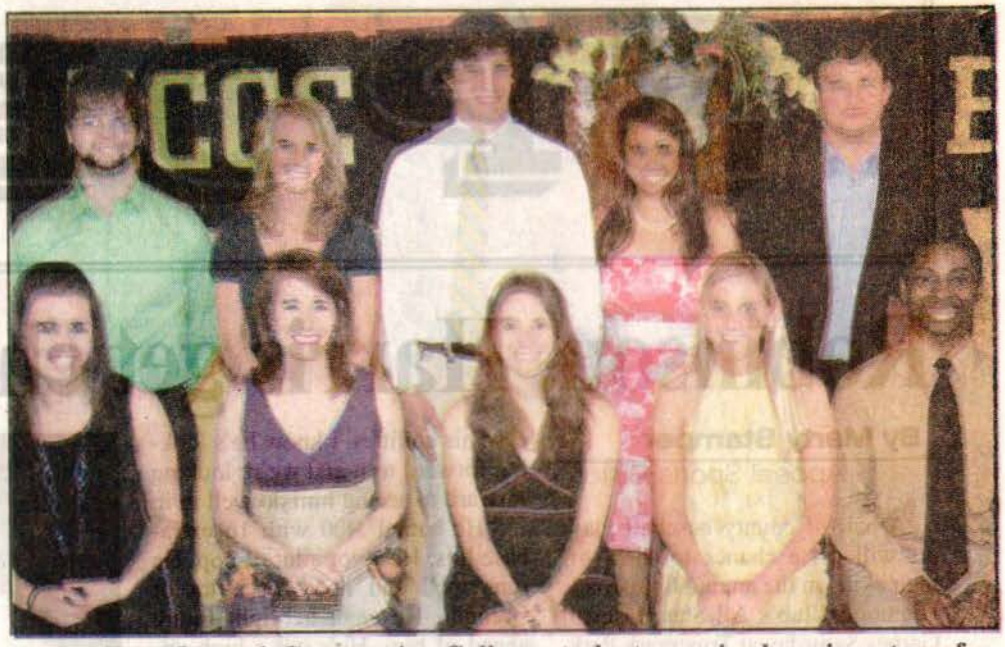
NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON COUNTY APPEAL ✓

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF June 1, 2009



These East Central Community College students received various transfer scholarships to Mississippi State University, which were presented during the annual East Central Community College Awards Day ceremonies held May 7 in Huff Auditorium on the Decatur campus. Scholarship recipients include (seated from left) Emily Wooten of Carthage, Anna Laurie Ezell and Kylie Rigdon, both of Union; Meagan Munn of Decatur and Shaun Cooper of Newton; and (standing, from left) Aaron Mann of Carthage, Kacy Covert of Collinsville, Daniel Johnson of Union, and Sidney Gutierrez of Chunky. Also pictured is MSU representative Heath Barrett who made the scholarship presentations. (EC Photo)

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON COUNTY APPEAL ✓

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

ECCC recognizes 400

une 1, 2009

special to the star

Approximately 400 graduates assembled for the East Central Community College's 80th Commencement on May 16, 2009, in the Neshoba County Coliseum in Philadelphia, ECCC President Dr. Phil A. Sutphin awarded degrees and certificates after candidates were presented by Dr. Lavinia Sparkman, vice president for instruction.

The honorees are:

Adams: Jason Calcote, Natchez

Carroll: Allen Cheek, Carrollton

Clarke: Mystee Shayrae Dale and Maurice D. Jenkins, both of Pachuta; Emalee Tindle and Ethan Tindle, both of Quitman

Clay: Robert Gaston, West Point

DeSoto: Quintin V. Scott, Olive Branch

Forrest: Matthew D. Lewis, Hattiesburg

Franklin: Steven T. McKenzie, Smithdale

Hinds: Dexter Charles McDonald Jr., Jackson

Jasper: Eden Bender, Bay Springs; Keysa Graham, Heidelberg; Amanda Boykin, Felicia Earnest and Latoshia Nicole Moore, all of Louin; David Miller, Newton; Terri Latonya Jones and Olivia Maria Shaw, both of Paulding

Jones: Genny Marie Freeman, Laurel

Kemper: Michaela Lee, Preston

Lauderdale: Kacy Elizabeth Covert and Matthew Naylor, both of Collinsville; Carol Lynn Collins, Deshondra Dubose, Justin Quincy Sean Lenton, Carlene Lipsey, Timothy Maloney, Brandi Goodwin McCoy and Ryanne R. McNeal, all of Meridian

Leake: Tyler Adcock, Brian Adam Byrd, Kasey Sue Crutcher, India Leighann Dickerson, Pandora Dixon-Sockey, Joseph Michael Dorman, Eric Dowell, Trenee Edwards, Britni Leigh Harvey, Sarah Irwin, Benjamin Kibler, Tamara Anise Leflore, Lacy McMurry, Cynthia R. Middlebrooks, Virginia Ruth Mitchell, Garnell Moses, Allison Nicole Phillips, Barbara J. Pitts, Joshua P. Quick, Shantie M. Ricks, Rebecca C. Wilbanks, Brandon Dwight Wilcher and Emily Dianne Wooten, all of Carthage; Joshua Mal Huffman, Kosciusko; Rhonda Thomas and Patricia Alene Vasquez, both of Lena; Sylvester Keyon Carter, Jeremy M. Corley, Tiffany Demeika Jackson, Chance Parhm, Aerial Jaleesa Sanders, Kendra Rochelle Sanders, Brittany LeAnn Smith, Evan Mitchell Summers-Jones and K. Lannis Windham, all of Walnut Grove

Lee: David Evan Smart, Mooreville; and Heath McClain Mullins, Tupelo

Lowndes: Rosalynn Latrice Henry and LeFelvia C. Jenkins, both of Columbus

Neshoba: Dallis John Steve Jr. and Vincent Wilson, both of Choctaw; Dekota Brooke Anthony, Phillip W. Barrier, Juana Deshane Ben, Harvey Brown, Christopher Neal Cremeen, Shelley E. Darby, Spencer Dickerson, Joseph James Downing, Sean Andrew Farmer, Ashley Fortune, Kim Foy, DeAndra Marie Graham, Kim Hadley, David Wesley Haggard, Kathryn A. Harrison, Harold Hathorn, Jessica Herrington, Brad Hughes, John Douglas Kelley, Dustin Kilpatrick, Brett Thomas Latimer, Cameron Lesley, Amber Nicole Madison, Adam F. Mann, Brandi Mathes, Tristain McMillan, Chance Tristan Nance, Patrick Patterson, Marsha Hall Payne, Flora L. Peebles, Misty Phillips, Michael Dewayne Pierce, Dustin B. Pope, Paige L. Posey, Windie Poston, Tiffany Wallace Quick, Kolby Sisson, Nathan L. Sistrunk, Micah Stewart, Christol D. Stribling, Jamie Stribling, Kyle Thompson, Pamela Joyce Townsend, Crystal Blair Walker, Robert W. Ward, Rebecca Watkins, Chester B. Whittle, Amanda Williamson, Ashley Whyana Wilson and Lacey Nicole Wilson, all of Philadelphia; Autumn Leigh Durant, Preston; Kimberly D. Burton, Yumecka C. Campbell, Tiffanie Credille, Jessica Lynn Galloway, Michelle Nicole Galloway, Brandon S. George, Shana Graham Harrison, Jennifer M. Key, Cynthia D. Ledlow, Wade Pierce, Kylie Dates Rigdon, Amy Sharp, Amber Smith, Jamie Smith, Jaquarius Talley, Emily Paige Thrash, Candace Nicole Vance and Leah Victoria Williams, all of Union

Newton: Christopher D. Cain, Christy Jones Gressett, Sidney Silvia Gutierrez and Rebecca L. Rogers, all of Chunky; Benjamin Adam Walton and Patrick Lamar Walton, both of Collinsville; Gilberth Bell, William Chaz Brunschon and Jessica Coleman, all of Conehatta; Carl M. Adkins, Joseph Kyle Barrett, Timothy Lee Blackburn, Susan Naomi Brown, Calli Leigh Cumberland, Jessica Dean, Christy Lynne Ezell, Doris Frith, Joy Lynn Hayes, Barry Allen Hollingsworth, Jesse L. Holloway, Joseph Kyle Killens, Samuel Fox Lewis, Angela Marie Massey, Richard McGill Mosby, Megan Clarice Munn, Daniel B. Pickett, Leah Platt, Jimmy Pritchett, Robert Dustin Reed, Pamela D. Townsend and James Reeves Tucker Jr., all of Decatur; Syncerety Bender, Shanekia R. Coleman, Jonathan K. Federick, Shardae Marquett Foley, Angela Valentine and Devarus K. Walker, all of Hickory; Ashley McMillan Castillo, Jennifer Renee Harris, Annette W. Jackson, Wyneda Markeda McLaurin and Beth Stephens; Sarah Allison Eakes, Alisha Shepherd Hitt, Mary Emilee Lanier, Evan Ross Pinson and Michael Skinner, all of Little Rock; Myrial Shildandre' Brown, Jonathan Demario Chapman, Shaun Michael Cooper, Shauntavien Currie, April Nicole Dunavant, Daphanie Hall, Ashley Lenea Harris, Lolita Renee Jordan, Barbara Rose Lyles, Molly Martin, Sharonda Moore, Christopher Aaron Scott Morrison, Rena Frances Robinson, Jeremy Snow, Josh Steele and Holly Kathleen Tullos; all of Newton; Dennis Jay Anderson Jr., Julie Catherine Boswell, Josh Dickerson, Anna Laurie Ezelle, Shannon Harrison, Aubrie Cleveland Howell, Anna Johnson, Daniel Johnson,

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graduates of the Class of 2009

Nicholas Dylan Lane, Matthew Ryan Livingston, Michelle Lee McNichols, Jacquenette H. Poole and William Damion Russell, all of Union

Noxubee: Dimario R. Parks, Macon

Rankin: Alisha Lenae McAfee, Brandon; Randall Patrick Creel, Shana Marie Easley and Justin Thomas Traylor, all of Florence; Catalina Tarazona, Pearl; and Ronnie Lance Thompson, Pelahatchie

Scott: Marteazs C. Bolden, Lee G. Brantley, Jessica D. Brown, Christopher Bufkin, Drew Crowell, Haley Rebecca Culpepper, Hannah Brooke Culpepper, Santigous Nicole Culpepper, Brittany Jade Cushman, Tanya L. Harrison, Marico Jones, Joshua David Ledford, Gary David Mart II, William Bradley McKinley, Emmeral K. McLaurin, Kemyatta Denise Qualls, Tanika Shunirror Robinson, Caitlin M. Slay, Matthew Ryan Wade, Kimberly Williams and Jeremy L. Wooten, all of Forest; Gregory Ryan Bennett, Brandi Gray, Leeana E. Lundy, Markis Antion Pinkston, Juley Taylor and Cody Taylor, all of Lake; Adrienne Marie Bird, Sandra Lynn Colyer, Kristina Patrice Ealy, Krista L. Frith, Jana Johnson, Angel Laster, Bethany Latham, Zane Mouchett, Paula Parker and Corey Shoemaker, all of Morton; and Rebecca Graham Brown and Aaron Tyler Gaylord, both of Sebastopol

Simpson: Kevin W. Carlisle, Mendenhall

Smith: Roderick Quantail Lofton, Pulaski; Joshua Tremain Gavin and Jeffrey Scott Hayman, both of Raleigh

Winston: Kayla Brooke Adcock, Michael Jarrad Ball, Nichole Alicia Ball, Lindsey Brooke Clark, Clintarius Coleman, Stephen Coleman, Tiffany L. Dora, Cledeeden Carol Dotson, Jack Edmonson, Daniel J. Eichelberger, Keia Eichelberger, Patience D. Haynes, Kristopher E. Holmes, TeQuia P. Hudson, Albert A. Hunt, Kelvin K. Knowles, Ancarisa S. Macon, Carey Jarrod Miller, Lesa Erin Miller, Kylie Ming, Elizabeth Laken Morgan, Laura Pearson, Marty Steven Quinn, Amber Elizabeth Reed, Bobby R. Sanders, Clancy Ethan Scarborough, Charles Clint Sloan, Mallory Kate Sloan, Whitney Nicole Smith, Kristi Clay Stapp, Brandi Michelle Tollett, Macqualine Triplett, Austin R. Vernon, Jesse Peaster Ward, Jacob T. Walker and Anna Kathrine White, all of Louisville; Delvontrese Goss, Samantha Kaitlin Leigh Kinard, Bruce Lee Manning, Tiffany Brooke Thomas and Cody Vowell, all of Noxapater

Louisiana: Rashima R. Jenkins, Bossier City; and Steven K. Barnes, Folsom

Alabama: Frank J. Harris, Lisman; and Joshua I. Lewis, Northport.

December 2008 Graduates

Calhoun: William T. Smith, Union

Choctaw: Jacqueline Ann Hunt, Ackerman

Clarke: Donald Chad Allen, Stonewall

Covington: Jasen Fairley, Collins

DeSoto: Randy S. Carter, Shubuta

Forrest: Donovan Treshaun Tate, Hattiesburg; and Marcus Deshun Travis, Petal

Hinds: LeTresia Stewart and Joshua Williams, both of Jackson

Kemper: Willie D. Poe, DeKalb

Lauderdale: Kristen Alsup, Collinsville; and Shaquita Antrenett Brown, Maurice Langston, Veronica Newell, Steree Nicole Portis, Octavius Lamar Truman, Amanda Weathers and Jessica Amber Robinson Young, all of Meridian

Leake: Pamela Renee Boone, Deanna Carol Morris, Kimberly Ann Sanders, Trisha Nicole White and Jason T. Yarbrough, all of Carthage; and Brittany Herrington, Walnut Grove

Madison: Bruce Williams, Ridgeland

Neshoba: Synica Bester, Lacey Brewer, Jeremy Scott Bull, Clark L. Calvery, Angela Harris Carter, Tabatha Marlene Charlie, Quintara Gibson, Candace N. Griffin, Austin Herrington, Jennileen Jackson, Candace Long, Crystal McGee, Jeana Dawn Richardson, Rachel Farron Thompson, Howard O. Tucker and Mark Wallace, all of Philadelphia; and Kriston Brooke Barrett and Tammy Lynn Plaisance, both of Union; Newton: Angela Scott: Ana Huerta, McKenzie Patrick and Courtney A.J. Stingley, all of Forest; Roccell Harper, Lake; Laci Simmons Bridges and John K. Logan, both of Lawrence; Christopher Clark, Lena; Jon Aaron Tatum, Morton; and Kimberly Norman, Sebastopol

Winston: Melissa T. Ball, Gary M. Boatner, Jr., Mallory Jade Thompson-Young and Missy Williamson, all of Louisville; and Jeremy Wright, McCool

Alabama: Vonzell D. Jackson, Aliceville; and Kendrick Devone May, Northport

Georgia: Dustin Alley, McDonough

August 2008 Graduates

Attala: Latisha Renee Grant, Sallis

Clarke: Karen Evans, Enterprise; and Meia L. Strickland, Quitman

Hinds: Tenesha U. Brown, Jackson

Kemper: Rhonda Renee Houston, DeKalb; and Lakaisha La'Shay Coleman, Preston

Lauderdale: Brooklyn Michelle Mayo and Wesley Stevens, both of Meridian

Leake: Justin Brown, Nicholas Comfort, Kristi Hardin, Sherry Kelly, Brittany Nazary and Tara LeAnn Steve, all of Carthage; and Tyeshai Ealy and David Dallas Harrell, both of Lena

Neshoba: Mary Jane Willis, Choctaw; and Tanesha A. Barham, Whitney Lee Crawford, Melinda Jean Gibson, Jessica Nichole Greer, Daphne Holmes, Patrisha Tahahwah and Candace Woodson, all of Philadelphia

Newton: Susan Dana Maxwell and Kristi Yarbrough, both of Chunky; Loraine I. Johnson, Conehatta; Maegan Leigh Johnston, Jan E. McNeil and Rachael Rainer, all of Decatur; Raven Hardy, Hickory; Kyle S. McCormick and Tawanna S. McDaniel, both of Lawrence; Regan Ward, Little Rock; Monica Dieanea Drummond, Nahamani Henderson, Kenyana Monae Rivers and Melissa B. Taylor, all of Newton; and Jessica Laine Cager and Kristi Marie Keene, both of Union

Oktibbeha: Jesse VanEtten, Starkville

Anne Dickerson Jordan, Conehatta; Cora Jean Crawford and Connie E. Parker, both of Decatur; April Evans and Kristian Martinae Evans, both of Hickory; Jonathan Jacobs and Robby Lee Pierce, both of Lawrence; Monica Shea Boyd, Little Rock; Monique Lyntrell Robinson, Scott Russell and Keshu L. Wash, all of Newton; and Kristy Denise Boswell, Stacey Chisolm, William J. Cunningham, Joy Lynn Hewitt, Jessica Crenshaw LaPeze, Joshua Scott Peets, Jordan L. Robinson, Karen Alice Smith, Cindy Strickland and April Tillman, all of Union

Rankin: Melissa Prestage, Lena

Rankin: Amanda Jane Ainsworth, Brandon

Smith: Jessica Amanda Ashley, Raleigh

Scott: Rebecca Coonce, Heather I. Warren and Erin Watkins, all of Forest; Margo Everett, Jennifer Hollingsworth and Freshta Warren, all of Lake; Austin Lee Lloyd and Anne Strohm, both of Morton; and Anna Catherine Hughes and Autumn N. Westbrook, both of Pulaski

Winston: Timothy William Butts, Brandi Jo Carter, Brandon Krajewski and Melysheaco Savior, all of Louisville

Florida: Bryon B. Rizzi, St. Augustine

WEEK OF June 8, 2009

Scott County Students Receive ECCC Nursing Pins

These Scott County students were among East Central Community College graduating sophomores who received pins during the annual Associate Degree Nursing pinning ceremony held May 8 in Huff Auditorium on the Decatur campus. Forty-two students completed the program and were also presented diplomas during the College's commencement exercises held Saturday, May 16, in the Neshoba County Coliseum in Philadelphia. ADN graduates from Scott County include (seated, from left) Kimberly Williams of Forest, and Shana Harrison and Becky Brown, both of Sebastopol; and (standing from left) Kemyatta Qualls of Forest, Sandra Colyer and Corey Shoemaker, both of Morton; and Brad McKinley and Lance Wooten, both of Forest.

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WEEK OF June 15, 2009

Jesse Harrison (center), a 2009 graduate of Newton County High School, and Meredith McKee (right), a 2009 graduate of Neshoba Central, were among the record 406 students who attended the June 5 Orientation session held at East Central Community College in Decatur. Helping them prepare fall class schedules is ECCC psychology instructor Susan Smith. In addition to registering for fall classes, students can learn about the various opportunities available on the EC campus. For more information contact ECCC Student Services, Phone 601-635-2111 or call toll free 1-877-462-3222, ext. 205. The email address is jkillens@eccc.edu <mailto:jkillens@eccc.edu> . (EC Photo)

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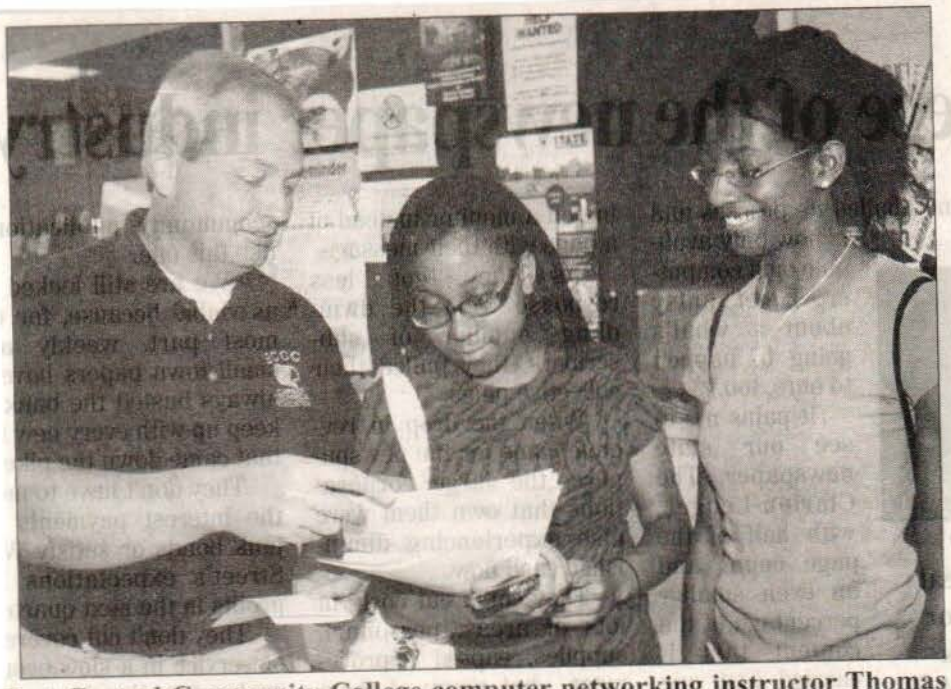
WEEK OF June 15, 2009



East Central Community College computer networking instructor Thomas Fortenberry (left) provides assistance to 2009 Union High School graduates Robyn Seales (center) and Dicie Taylor (right) who attended the June 5 Orientation session held at East Central. Additional orientation sessions are scheduled Saturday, June 20; Thursday, July 9; Wednesday, July 22; and Friday, August 14. Fall classes begin Thursday, August 20.

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WEEK OF June 15, 2009

ECCC STUDENTS RECEIVE CPR TRAINING

SUBMITTED PHOTO

These students in one of Kim Hardy's Anatomy and Physiology II class at East Central Community College in Decatur recently completed a CPR American Heart Association training course. Front row, from left, are Kayla Adcock of Louisville, Anna Munn of Collinsville, Crystal Walker of Philadelphia, instructor Danell Belk, and Amber Rhodes and Leanne White, both of Carthage. Back row, from left, are Josh Ledford of Forest, Sara Betts Deweese of Philadelphia, instructors Mary James and Tim Watkins, and Morgan Coleman of Carthage.

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WEEK OF June 15, 2009

LOCAL WARRIORS RECEIVE AWARDS

Members of the East Central Community College mens basketball team who received honors at the annual Spring Sports Awards Banquet include, from left, guard Rico Jones of Forest, most valuable offensive player; shooting guard Rod Lofton of Forest, most valuable defensive player; Devarus Walker of Newton County, hustle award; and forward Josh Luckett of Carthage, scholar athlete, Warrior Award, second team MACJC All-State and All-Star. Warrior head coach Maurice Bowie presented awards.

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WEEK OF June 15, 2009

Attends ECCC Orientation

Anna Crapps (right), a 2009 graduate of Morton High School, was among the record 406 students who attended the June 5 Orientation session held at East Central Community College in Decatur. She is shown with ECCC business technology instructor Christy Ferguson who assisted Crapps in preparing her fall class schedule. In addition to registering for fall classes, students can learn about the various opportunities available on the EC campus. Additional orientation sessions are scheduled Saturday, June 20; Thursday, July 9; Wednesday, July 22; and Friday, August 14. Fall classes begin Thursday, August 20. For more information contact ECCC Student Services, Phone 601-635-2111 or call toll free 1-877-462-3222, ext. 205. The email address is jkillens@eccc.edu. (EC Photo)

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WEEK OF July 6, 2009

organizational clubs

ECCC Cheerleaders Selected for next season

DECATUR —Members of ECCC's cheerleader squad have been selected for 2009-10, announced Shelley Thoms, who begins her first year as cheer coach.

Female squad members include Ashley Amis and Monica Vincent, both of Decatur; Robyn Fanning, Philadelphia; Adrienne McDill, Abby McMillan and Anna Williams, all of Newton; Chelsea Jones, Enterprise; and Hannah Alley of McDonough, Ga. Liz Withers of Philadelphia was selected as an alternate.

Male squad members are ***Will Emmons, Lake***; Richie Ferguson, Decatur; Paul Hatcher and Josh Jarriel, both of Philadelphia; Dayton Johnson and Brandon Kennedy, both of Union; and Cody Ming and Dustin Stewart, both of Louisville.

Daniel Steverson of Hickory was chosen Warrior Chief mascot and alternate cheerleader.

East Central begins the 2009 football campaign by challenging Coahoma Community College on Aug. 27.

Kickoff is set for 6:30 p.m. at Bailey Stadium on the Decatur campus.

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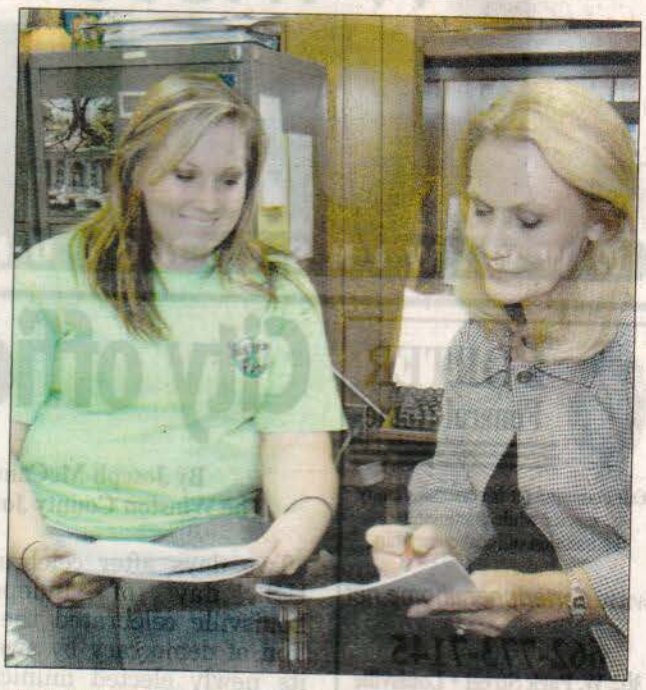
WEEK OF July 6, 2009

Orientation / enrollment

ECCC orientation



Hillhouse Attends ECCC Orientation
Morgan Hillhouse (left) of Louisville was among area students who attended the Saturday, June 20 orientation held at East Central Community College in Decatur. Hillhouse is shown with English instructor Carol Shackelford who provided assistance to the Winston Academy graduate in planning her fall semester class schedule. Additional orientation sessions for new or transfer students will be held Thursday, July 9; Wednesday, July 22; and Friday, Aug. 14. Fall classes begin Thursday, Aug. 20. For more information contact ECCC Student Services, 601-635-2111 or call toll free, 877-462-3222, ext. 205. The e-mail address is jkillens@eccc.edu.

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WEEK OF July 6, 2009

Vinson Participates in ECCC Orientation

Hannah Vinson (left) of Morton was among area students who attended the Saturday, June 20 orientation session held at East Central Community College in Decatur. Vinson is shown with practical nursing instructor Melanie Pinter who provided assistance to the Morton High School graduate in planning her fall semester class schedule. Additional orientation sessions for new and transfer students will be held Thursday, July 9; Wednesday, July 22; and Friday, Aug. 14. Fall classes begin Thursday, Aug. 20. For more information contact ECCC Student Services, 601-635-2111 or call toll free, 877-462-3222, ext. 205. The e-mail address is jkillens@eccc.edu. (EC Photo

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WEEK OF July 13, 2009
EVENTS

ECCC Collegians to Perform at Neshoba County Fair

The Collegians, East Central Community College's rock-n-roll band, will present their 26th annual Neshoba County Fair performance at 1 p.m. on Monday, July 27, at Founders' Square Pavilion. Also participating in the day's activities will be the ECCC Cheerleaders and the Centralettes, the danceline for the Warrior Wall O' Sound Marching Band. The Collegians will also perform at 6:30 p.m. at the Grandstand prior to the Miss Neshoba County pageant. Collegian members and their respective high schools include (front row, from left) Dustin Gibbs, Lake; Drew Harrison, Newton County; Nathan Spears, Neshoba Central; Brandon Hughes, Newton County; Lana Adkins, Union; Tiffany Spence, Newton County; Allison Rogers, Louisville; and Mikail Serio, Carthage; (second row, from left) Graylon Foster, Philadelphia; Ruby McCurdy, Carthage; Chris Smith, Union; and Christina Gibbs, Lake; and (back row, from left) Logan McDonald, Newton County; Cody Thrash, Sebastopol; Kristina Harrison, Union; Matt Moore, Morton; John David Bates, Neshoba Central; Emily Malone, Carthage; Josh Talbert, a home-schooler from Newton; Lacey Gilmore and Anthony Williams, both of Newton County; Chris Corley, Leake Academy; and Clay Winstead, Neshoba Central. ECCC Director of Bands Thomas W. Carson serves as director and also plays guitar. (EC Photo)

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WEEK OF July 20, 2009

ECCC Recognizes July 9 Orientation Participants

East Central Community College's July 9 orientation was well attended as approximately 145 students registered for fall semester classes on the Decatur campus, announced Joe Killens, vice president for student services.

Participants and their respective hometowns include Tara Kalanya Lewis and Courtney Michelle Reinke, both of Bailey; Alyssa Michell Agee, Zaccheaus Jamal Holliday, Laquanta Monique McCullum and Gareale Shanta McGill, all of Bay Springs; Latavious Tywon Davis and Nacovian Montez Wimberly, both of Blakely, GA; Haley Marie Barrett, Jesse Coleman Dickerson, Terrian Alise Leflore, Alisa Monte Matlock, Antonio Demond Nash, Taylor Zane Parker, Jessie Faye Tate, Schvocki K. Triplett, Dennis L. Tull and Cameron Lacy Wilcher, all of Carthage;

Ashley Rene Riggen and Edward Charles Tubby, both of Choctaw; Heather Christian Kelly and Darlene Michelle Kennedy, both of Conehatta; Todd Philip Blount, Lorenzo Durant Gardner, Kylie Anne McDonald and Jammie Nichole Mitchell, all of Decatur; Mario Antwan Bradley, Duncanville, AL; Dustin Wayne Moody, Elkhorn, WI; Keosha Raquel Amos, Jessica Louise Bell, Christi Capitola Breedlove, Kimberly Reece Brown, Carmen M. Coleman, Courtney D. Harrell, Richard Thomas Hocutt, Serena Jo Jackson, Robert Charles Johnson, Melody S. Jones, Brittany Nicole King, Jasmine S. McLaurin, Freddie Leroy Mobley, Christian Manolo Ortega, Julia Nicole Patrick, Bianca Shanygnea Thomas and Cody Neil Walters, all of Forest;

Christina Renee Posey, Hickory; Carla Marie Cook, Jackson; Luther F. Bell, Kosciusko; Kiswana Dashaye Burnside, Colton Blake Mitchell, Christopher Alan Spence, Whitney M. Spivey and Cody Levi Augusta Wilborn, all of Lake; Daniel Joseph Polifka, Lauderdale; Lottie Ruth Matlock, Little Rock; Eddie Jerome Herring, Tanecia K. Keys, Kenyotia Kandrille Moncrief, Shantina Machelle Nobles, Latia Jurnee Sims, Sarita Marie Wheaton and Lashonda Chereese Wilson, all of Louin;

Nathan Speed Calvert, Evan Keith Dailey, Deedra M.L. Davies, Kuriakis Miguel Glass, Terrence Dewayne Hardin, Jermey D. Lowery, Ancarisa Frazier Macon, Polly Macon, Jason Matthew Mangum, Sabrina Janae McNeal, Lacanda Rena Miller, Randall Dion Norton, Laporsche Kenyatta Nunn, Johnathan P. Phillips, Ronald Earl Spears, Delnette Joynise Triplett and Diawanikee T. Triplett, all of Louisville; Carrenthia Lashea Everett, McCool;

John Brandon Brown, Ollie Christopher Brown, Nandi Nkosanzana Franklin, Amelia Vernice Hudson, Roddricas Martin, Lynnesha Torcelle Ramsey, Alisha Ann Rankin and Corey Danshun Seals, all of Meridian; Reginald L. Wheaton, Montrose; Stella Ann Jenkins, Zachary Graham Jones, Brandon Wayne King, Matthew Adam King and Pierre Kevin Miranda, all of Morton; Cedric Reshad Bender, Stephan Tarrell Cherry, Lorin Raey Hamrick, Nisheka Shuntae Hughes, Lisa Michelle Jay, Melody Orean Mann, Breshawn Calita McNeal, Lekendrick D. Moore, Krystal Audranna Newell, Maeree C. Overstreet, Stephanie Nicole Patrick, Joshua Edward Talbert, Kayla Lynn Tasker, Daniel Walker and Kanisha Shalois Warnsley, all of Newton;

Joseph Eric Moore and Ryan L. Smyth, both of Noxapater; Sharae Tamara Pigues, Olive Branch; Cecil Riley Burrage, Bradley Lavon Drury, Edmund Junta Fisher, Mitchell Bain Henderson, Stacy Lynn Hurtt, Christopher Orlando Isaac, Heather Michelle James, Eric Kyle Jones, Brewer Keith McGee, LC J Moore, Kyle Lee Morrow, Ashley Lauren Stepp, William Cody Stepp, Ashton Michelle Steve, Deidre Estelline Tubby, Sheahn Elane Wallace, Erica Shanice Williams, Kandice Kylene Williams and Carollyn Pelea Young, all of Philadelphia;

Katheline McDonald McDaniel and Mathew G. Mitchell, both of Preston; Cornelius Dwuan Johnson, Quitman; Sharee Niclole Parrish and Kevin Dwight Seaberry, both of Raleigh Janalee Loraine Brown, Ashly Nicole Butler, Justin A. Butler, Diannae Cager Campbell, Walter Robert Eldrd, Rachel Deanne Evans, Andra Renee Rash and Justin David Thrash, all of Union; James Zachary Wright, Walnut Grove; and Darrmal Nathaniel Moore, Wiggins.

Additional orientation sessions are scheduled Wednesday, July 22; and Friday, Aug. 14. Fall classes begin Thursday, Aug. 20.

For more information contact ECCC Student Services, 601-635-2111 or call toll free, 877-462-3222, ext. 205. The e-mail address is jkillens@eccc.edu.

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WEEK OF July 27, 2009

ECCC winners

ECCC Students Winning National PBL Honors

Participating and winning honors in the National Phil Beta Lambda Competition are the above students representing East Central Community College in Decatur. Seated from left are Theta Chi members Lachelle Moss of Decatur, fourth place, Community Service Project; Kim Amerson, also of Decatur, sixth place, Local Chapter Annual Business Report; Marlee Deweese of Philadelphia, fourth place, Small Business Plan; and Abby McMillin, Newton. Standing from left are chapter sponsors Kelly Cluff, computer network support technology instructor and Ruth Gregory, business technology instructor; Zack Gibbs, Forest; Rebecca Rogers of Chunky, third place, Free Enterprise Project; Morgan Deweese of Philadelphia, fourth place, Small Business Plan; Windie Poston of Philadelphia, fourth place, Community Service Project; and Evan Summers-Jones of Walnut Grove, eighth place, Website Development. McMillin participated in the Public Speaking competition and Gibbs competed in Computer Applications. The ECCC chapter captured more awards than any Mississippi Chapter and was recognized as one of only two Gold Seal Chapters in the state. The annual contest was held in Anaheim, California. (Submitted photo).

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WEEK OF July 27, 2009

Scholarship receiptent

Collins Receives Lowe Scholarship at ECCC

Vickie Collins (left) of Noxapater is the 2009 recipient of The Edwin and Marie Lowe Scholarship presenting during the AT&T Scholarship Appreciation Luncheon held July 16 at East Central Community College in Decatur. Collins is a graduate of St. Aloysius High School. The scholarship was established in 2002 by the couple's children in honor of their life and work. Representing the donors is Mary Hanson (right), a former ECCC staff member now residing in Spanish Fort, Ala. More than 90 scholarships totaling approximately $70,000 were awarded at the annual event, which recognizes donors and recipients of various scholarships. AT&T has sponsored the scholarship appreciation luncheon since 2003.

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WEEK OF July 27, 2009

Scholarship winners

Burt Scholarship Recipients at ECCC
Anna Fulton (fourth from left) of Louisville and Brian Felton (far right) of are the first recipients of The Landon Bryan Burt Memorial Scholarshi was presented during the AT&T Scholarship Appreciation Luncheon hel at East Central Community College in Decatur. Fulton and Felton are g of Nanih Waiya and Newton County high schools, respectively, and we friends of Landon Burt, who lost his life in the College lake on Dec. 19, 20 being filmed for an inspirational video for the Baptist Student Union. tured are (from left) Landon's brother, David, and parents Bryan and M More than 90 scholarships totaling approximately $70,000 were awarde annual event, which recognizes donors and recipients of various scho AT&T has sponsored the scholarship appreciation luncheon since 200 Photo)

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Blackwell receives Iris Boggan Scholarship at ECCC

Kimberly Blackwell of Louisville is the first recipient of The Iris Boggan Scholarship presented during the AT&T Scholarship Appreciation Luncheon held July 16 at East Central Community College in Decatur.

Blackwell, a returning sophomore, is a graduate of Nanih Waiya High School. The scholarship honors Mrs. Boggan, a registered nurse, for her commitment to healthcare. She and her late husband, Dr. Austin P. Boggan, operated a general practice clinic in Decatur for more than 50 years.

Family representative Ada McGrevey is pictured with the scholarship recipient. More than 90 scholarships totaling approximately $70,000 were awarded at the annual event, which recognizes donors and recipients of various scholarships. AT&T has sponsored the scholarship appreciation luncheon since 2003.

Moody receives scholarship

Hailey Moody is the 2009 recipient of The Earnest Harrison Boswell Scholarship presented during the AT&T Scholarship Appreciation Luncheon held July 16 at East Central Community College in Decatur.

Moody is a graduate of Nanih Waiya High School. Shown with the scholarship recipient is donor representative Rebecca Boswell.

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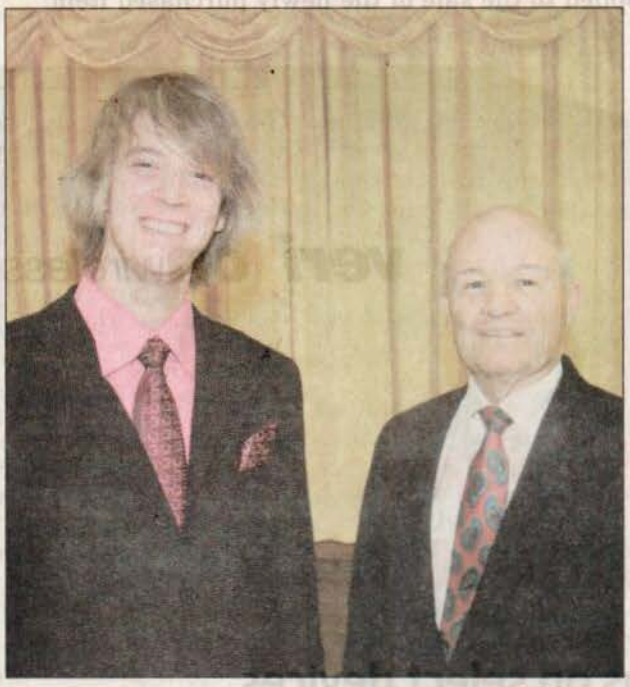
WEEK OF July 27, 2009

Goodin receives scholarship



Goodin Receives Hummel Scholarship at ECCC
Lance Goodin (left) is the 2009 recipient of The Martha Kate Tullos Hummel Scholarship presented during the AT&T Scholarship Appreciation Luncheon held July 16 at East Central Community College in Decatur. Goodin, a returning sophomore at ECCC, is a graduate of Nanih Waiya High School. The scholarship was endowed in 2006 by Mrs. Hummel's husband, Don Hummel (right) and their three sons. More than 90 scholarships totaling approximately $70,000 were awarded at the annual event, which recognizes donors and recipients of various scholarships. AT& T has sponsored the scholarship appreciation luncheon since 2003. (EC Photo)

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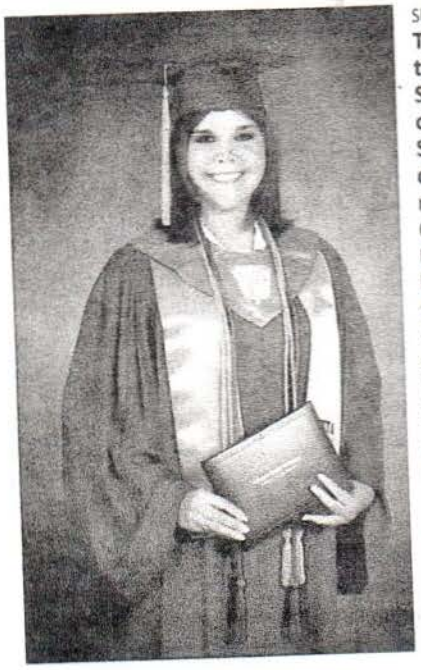
WEEK OF July 27, 2009

Scholarships

MOORE RECEIVES NATIONAL BETA CLUB SCHOLARSHIP



SUBMITTED PHOTO

The National Beta Club would like to announce that Jennifer Moore has been named a Beta Scholar, which entitles her to a scholarship award of $1,000. Moore, a 2009 graduate of Forest High School, competed against more than 1,000 candidates nationwide for this honor, of which, 215 recipients were chosen. She plans to attend East Central Community College and Mississippi State University to major in elementary education, and become certified in special education. Moore was recommended for this award by the local Beta Club sponsors, Chantelle Herchenhahn high school principal and assistant principal, Tim Moore and Alan Atkison, respectively. "This outstanding young person represents the true spirit of National Beta, having excelled not only academically, but in leadership and service to school and community as well," said Ken Cline, executive director of the National Beta Club. Moore is the daughter of Buddy and Shirley Moore. Her grandparents are the late Wilburn and Lily Winstead of Forest, and the late J.D. Moore and the late Velma Malone, both of Carthage.

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WEEK OF August 3, 2009

RECEIVES AT&T SCHOLARSHIP

SUBMITTED PHOTO

Justin Wilson, left, is the 2009 recipient of the AT&T Scholarship presented during the AT&T Scholarship Appreciation Luncheon at East Central Community College in Decatur. Wilson, a graduate of Newton County High School, is shown with AT&T representative C.D. Smith of Meridian. More than 90 scholarships totaling approximately $70,000 were presented at the annual event, which recognizes donors and recipients of various scholarships. AT&T has sponsored the scholarship appreciation luncheon since 2003.

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WEEK OF August 3, 2009

Earn ECCC Scholarships.....

More than 90 scholarships totaling approximately $70,000 were awarded at the AT&T Scholarship Appreciation Luncheon held July 16 at East Central Community College in Decatur. AT&T has sponsored the scholarship appreciation luncheon since 2003 which honors both the recipenys and the donors.

Dominique McKee, an EC sophomore and Newton High graduate, is the 2009 recipient of The Ann Burkes PTK Scholarship. The scholarship honors the life and works of Ann Hunter Burkes of Decatur, a longtime employee and Phi Theta Kappa sponsor at ECCC.

Kristen Sistrunk, a Union High grad, is the 2009 recipient of The Entergy Mississippi, Inc. Excellence in Education Scholarship for Vocational and Technical Education.

Cole Harris, a gr ate of Newton County High Sch is the 2009 recipi of The Andrew Wilson Lathem Scholarship. The scholarship was established in 20 by the family of M Lathem, a 1940 ECCC graduate.

Krissy Holmes, a Newton County Academy grad, is the 2009 recipient of The Jay B. and Frances Smith Scholarship.

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WEEK OF August 3, 2009

Students receive scholarship dollars

SUBMITTED PHOTO

Cody Harrell (center) is the 2009 recipient of The Jeff and Kathy Hitt Scholarship presented during the AT&T Scholarship Appreciation Luncheon held at East Central Community College in Decatur. Harrell is a graduate of Forest High School. The scholarship was established in 2003 in Jeff's memory by his family. Representing the donors are Gillian Hitt (left), daughter of the late Jeff and Linda Hitt, and Faye Henley, Linda's mother.

SUBMITTED PHOTO

Nicole Waldrop (left) is the 2009 recipient of The Landbank South Scholarship presented during the AT&T Scholarship Appreciation Luncheon held July 16 at East Central Community College in Decatur. Waldrop is a graduate of Scott Central High School. Also pictured is Lanette Hanna of the College's Student Services staff.

Decatur Commons Apartments

New apartments located less than 1 mile from ECCC Campus

~Convienent to college students~

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SUBMITTED PHOTO

Laura Gunn (left) is the 2009 recipient of The Sylvia Ann Graham Haywood Scholarship presented during the AT&T Scholarship Appreciation Luncheon held July 16 at East Central Community College in Decatur. Gunn is a graduate of Lake High School. The scholarship was established in memory of Mrs. Haywood by her husband, William Thomas Haywood, a former business manager at ECCC. Also pictured is Romonica Evans of the College's Student Services staff.

SUBMITTED PHOTO

Lindsey Bishop (left) is the 2009 recipient of The Thomas Rudolph Mayes Memorial Scholarship presented during the AT&T Scholarship Appreciation Luncheon held July 16 at East Central Community College in Decatur. Bishop is a graduate of Sebastopol High School. The scholarship was established in 1998 by family and friends in honor of Mr. Mayes, an ECCC English instructor for 28 years. Also pictured is Lanette Hanna of the College's Student Services staff.

SU

Edgar Alvarez (left) is the 2009 recipient c Eubanks KALJYC-PEERS Scholarship presentec AT&T Scholarship Appreciation Luncheon hel East Central Community College in Decatur returning sophomore, is a graduate of Forest I The scholarship is awarded to the incoming st association president. The scholarship recipie with Romonica Evans of the College's Stude staff.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

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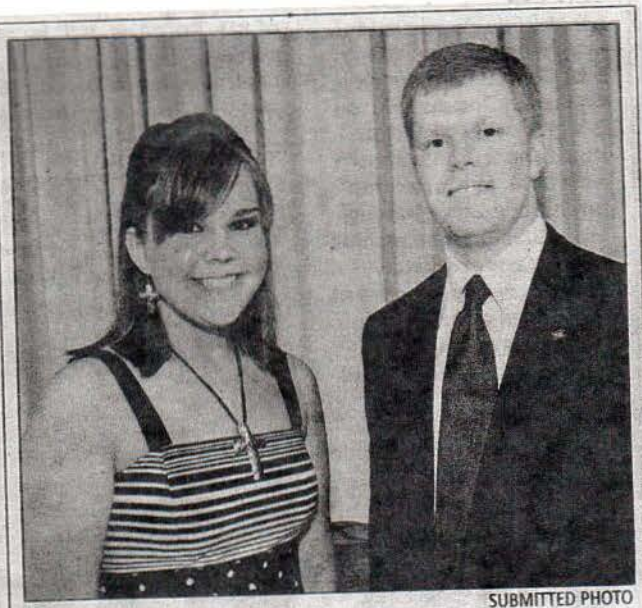
SUBMITTED PHOTO

Quent Odom (left) is the 2009 recipient of The Shirley Renaud Memorial Scholarship presented during the AT&T Scholarship Appreciation Luncheon held July 16 at East Central Community College in Decatur. Odom is a graduate of Scott Central High School. The scholarship was established in 2000 by Joe Renaud (right) in memory of his late wife. More than 90 scholarships totaling approximately $70,000 were awarded at the annual event, which recognizes donors and recipients of various scholarships.



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Jennifer Moore (left) is the 2009 recipient of the Bank of Forest Scholarship presented during the AT&T Scholarship Appreciation Luncheon held July 16 at East Central Community College in Decatur. Moore is a graduate of Forest High School. She is shown with Bank of Forest representative Drew Kenna. Moore also received the Regina Gail Gibbs Rigby Scholarship.

SU

Heather Kahn (left) is the 2009 recipient
Central Community College Board of Trustees
presented during the AT&T Scholarship A
Luncheon held July 16 on the ECCC campus
Kahn is a graduate of Carthage Christian
Representing the ECCC Board of Trustees is Ro
Forest, who serves as Board secretary.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

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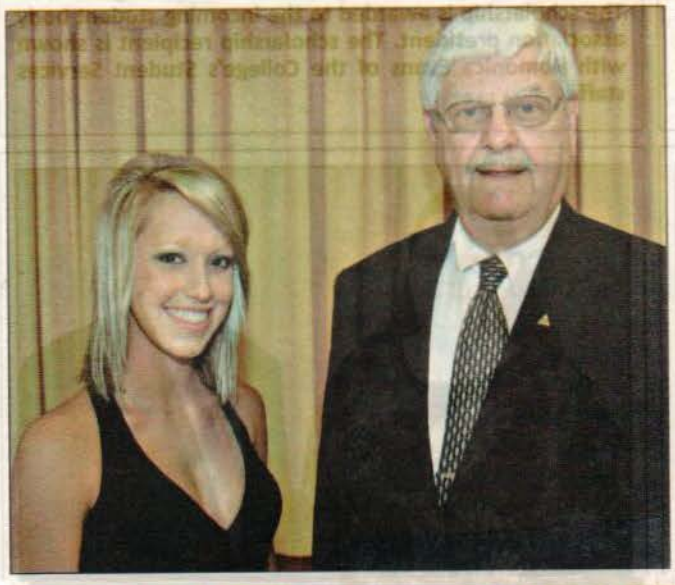
WEEK OF August 3, 2009

Scholarship winners announced

SUBMITTED PHOTO

Karley Mitchell (center) is the 2009 recipient of The Albert and Fannie Hollingsworth Scholarship presented during the AT&T Scholarship Appreciation Luncheon held July 16 at East Central Community College in Decatur. Mitchell is a graduate of Lake High School. The scholarship recipient is shown with Mrs. Hollingsworth (right) and her daughter, Patricia Lowe. Albert Hollingsworth was a longtime educator and member of the College's Board of Trustees.



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Hannah Vinson (left) is the 2009 recipient of the Bank of Morton Scholarship presented during the AT&T Scholarship Appreciation Luncheon held July 16 at East Central Community College in Decatur. Vinson is a graduate of Morton High School. She is shown with Bank of Morton representative Lacey Harvey. More than 90 scholarships totaling approximately $70,000 were presented at the annual event, which recognizes donors and recipients of various scholarships.

SUBMITTED PHOTO

Aaron Snell (left) is the 2009 recipient of The S. Lebrun Hutchison Scholarship presented during the AT& T Scholarship Appreciation Luncheon held July 16 at East Central Community College in Decatur. Snell, a returning sophomore at EC, is a graduate of Lake High School. The scholarship is awarded to a returning sophomore who is a member of the Alpha Alpha Epsilon Engineering Club. Also pictured is Romonica Evans (right) of the College's Student Services staff.

APPEARED IN:

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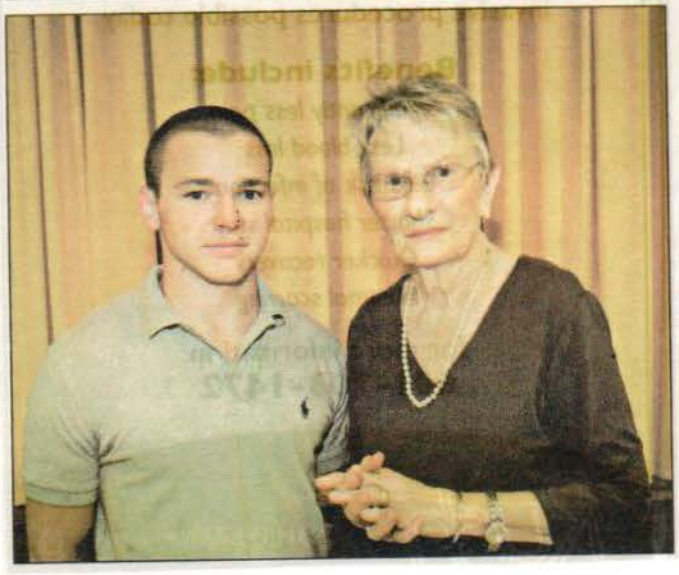
SUBMITTED PHOTO

Andrew Evans (left) is the 2009 recipient of The Charles W. Sanders Memorial Scholarship presented during the AT&T Scholarship Appreciation Luncheon held July 16 at East Central Community College. Evans is a graduate of Forest High School. Also pictured is Lanette Hanna of the College's Student Services staff. More than 90 scholarships totaling approximately $70,000 were awarded at the annual event, which recognizes donors and scholarship recipients.



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Cody Taylor (left) is the 2009 recipient of The Bob Wilkerson Memorial Vo-Tech Scholarship presented during the AT&T Scholarship Appreciation Luncheon held July 16 at East Central Community College in Decatur. Taylor is a graduate of Lake High School. The scholarship was endowed in 2003 by Patsy (right) and Robert Wilkerson in memory of their son, Bob.

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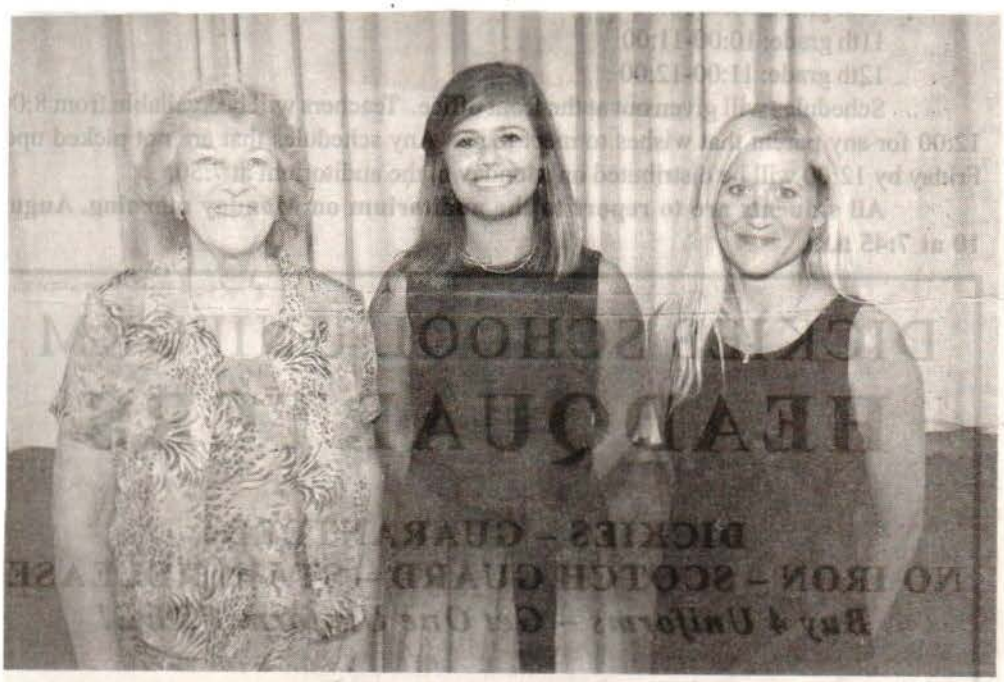

Brown Receives Mosal Scholarship at ECCC

Bailey Brown (center) of Morton is the 2009 recipient of The Dr. Margaret Mosal Memorial Scholarship presented during the AT&T Scholarship Appreciation Luncheon held July 16 at East Central Community College in Decatur. Brown, a returning sophomore at ECCC, is a graduate of East Rankin Academy. The scholarship was established by the late Dr. Shelby Harris to honor the late Dr. Mosal, former executive director of Phi Theta Kappa International. Also pictured are donor representatives Helen Gibbs (left) and Kim Smith. More than 90 scholarships totaling approximately $70,000 were awarded at the annual event, which recognizes donors and recipients of various scholarships. AT&T has sponsored the scholarship appreciation luncheon since 2003. (EC Photo)

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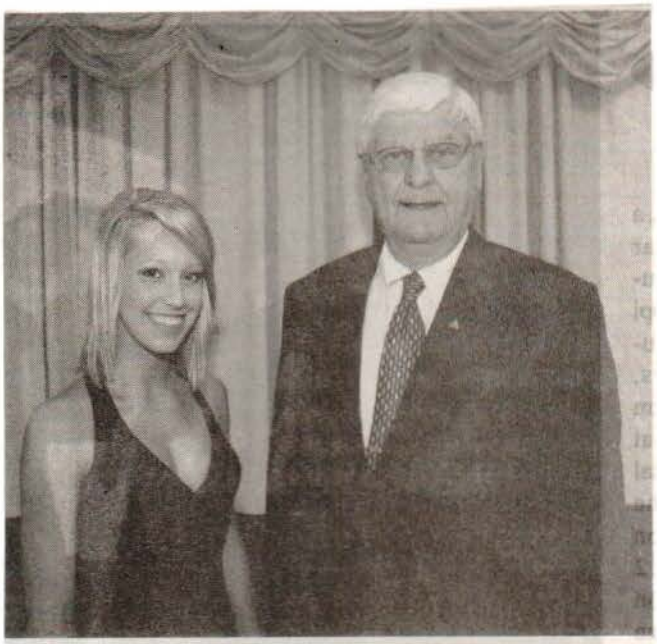

Vinson Presented Bank of Morton Scholarship at ECCC

Hannah Vinson (left) is the 2009 recipient of the Bank of Morton Scholarship presented during the AT&T Scholarship Appreciation Luncheon held July 16 at East Central Community College in Decatur. Vinson is a graduate of Morton High School. She is shown with Bank of Morton representative Lacey Harvey. More than 90 scholarships totaling approximately $70,000 were presented at the annual event, which recognizes donors and recipients of various scholarships. AT&T has sponsored the scholarship appreciation luncheon since 2003.

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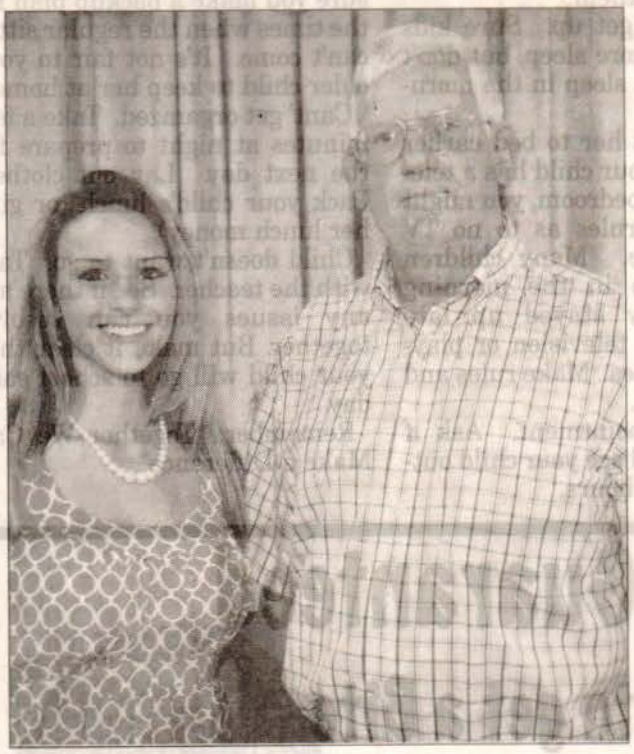
Robinson receives



Robinson receives Leatherwood Scholarship at ECCC

Jaqlene Robinson (left) is the 2009 recipient of The Frank and Nena Holt Leatherwood Scholarship presented during the AT&T Scholarship Appreciation Luncheon held July 16 at East Central Community College in Decatur. Robinson, is a returning sophomore at ECCC, is a graduate of Noxapater High School. The scholarship was established by family and friends in memory of the two longtime educators. Representing the donors is Frank Leatherwood, Jr. (right). More than 90 scholarships totaling approximately $70,000 were awarded at the annual event, which recognizes donors and recipients of various scholarships.

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Darby receives auto scholarship

Zack Darby (left) is the 2009 recipient of The Mississippi Automotive Manufacturers' Association Scholarship presented during the AT& T Scholarship Appreciation Luncheon held July 16 at East Central Community College in Decatur. Darby is a graduate of Nanih Waiya High School. Also pictured is Romonica Evans of the College's Student Services staff. More than 90 scholarships totaling approximately $70,000 were awarded at the annual event, which recognizes donors and recipients of various scholarships. AT&T has sponsored the scholarship appreciation luncheon since 2003. (EC Photo)

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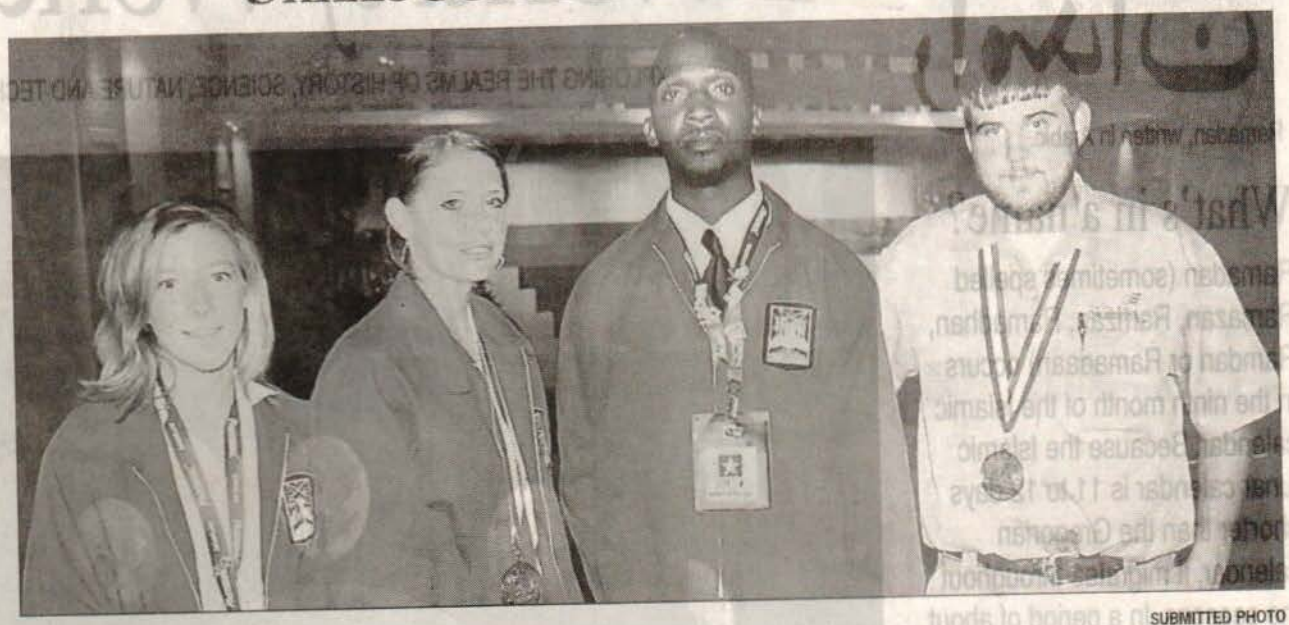
WEEK OF August 3, 2009

SKILLSUSA MEDALS FOR ECCC



SUBMITTED PHOTO

These career-technical students at East Central Community College in Decatur received medals at the 2009 SkillsUSA National Leadership and Skills Conference held during June in Kansas City, Mo. Award winners included, from left, Courtney Craven of Louisville, Holly Tanner of Ethel and Jermaine Glass of Louisville, who placed third in the Occupational Safety and Health competition; and Patrick Griffin of Union, who also placed third in Major Appliance Repair. Also receiving honors but not pictured were Brooke Barrett and Melissa Kleinschmidt, both of Union, Magan Lancaster of Decatur, Mecklin Soules of Heidelberg, Kandance Smith of Collinsville, Takeila Stephens of Meridian and Kimberly Wareing of Forest, who placed fourth in the Opening and Closing Team competition; Marsha Reed of Philadelphia and Jessica Smith of Forest, fourth-place winners in Promotional Bulletin Board; Josh Steele of Newton, 10th, CNC Turning; and Jonathan Chapman of Newton, who finished 22nd in Collision Repair. ECCC tied with Meridian Community College for most medalists from Mississippi.

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SIMULATORS ASSIST EC NURSING STUDENTS

East Central Community College Practical Nursing students Schanda Wilson of Meridian, left, and Carmen Braddy of Forest practice their nursing skills on NOELLE, a birthing mannequin simulator, and her newborn, HAL, which were acquired earlier this year with proceeds from a grant awarded by Johnson and Johnson's Promise of Nursing initiative. With the new technology, instructors are able to program the mannequins to produce multiple symptoms and students must react just as in a hospital setting.

SUBMITTED PHOTO

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WEEK OF August 10, 2009

Orientation

Subject: Dawkins Attends ECCC Orientation

Lawandia Dawkins (left) of Noxapater was among students who attended the July 22 Orientation session, held at East Central Community College in Decatur. She is shown with mathematics instructor Sylvia Wright who assisted in preparing her fall class schedule. In addition to registering for fall classes, students learn about the various opportunities available on the EC campus. The final summer orientation session will be held Friday, August 14. Fall classes begin Thursday, August 20. For more information contact ECCC Student Services, Phone 601-635-2111 or call toll free 1-877-462-3222, ext. 205. The email address is jkillens@eccc.edu. (EC Photo)

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WEEK OF August 10, 2009

EC Scholarships...

ore than 90 scholarships totaling approximately $70,000 were awarded at the AT&T Scholarship Appreciation Luncheon held July 16 at East Central Community College in Decatur. AT&T has sponsored the scholarship appreciation luncheon since 2003 which honors both the recipenys and the donors.

Jamie Truhett, a Union High School graduate, is the 2009 recipient of The Weems Scholarship. The scholarship was established in 2001 to commemorate the historical roles of the Weems Family of Scott County as members of the ECCC Board of Trustees, faculty and student body.

Brittany Parker is a co-recipient of the 2009 Newton Rotary Club Scholarship. Parker received the award with Richie Ferguson (not pictured), who are both graduates of Newton County High School.

Newton County High School graduates (from left) Summer Alexander, Jessy Harrison and Courtney Lanier are the 2009 recipients of the Harrison Memorial Scholarship, established by friends of Ricky Harrison (right) and his wife, Janean, in honor of their children, Crystal and C.J., who were killed in an automobile accident in 1993.

Virginia Holyfield, A Newton County High SChjool graduate, is the 2009 recipient of The Kinoth and Ella Mae Thornton and Emerson Electric Scholarshipl.

Meaghan Mayes of Conehatta anda graduate of Sebastopol High School is the 2009 recipient of The Rev. John Lambert Neill Scholarship. She is returning sophomore at EC.

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CLASS NOTES

SUBMITTED PHOTO

Sami Elkins (left) is the 2009 recipient of The Jones and Carrie Williamson and Bascom and Hattie Chisolm Scholarship presented during the AT&T Scholarship Appreciation Luncheon held July 16 at East Central Community College in Decatur. Elkins is a graduate of Forest High School. The scholarship was established in 1996 by Dolphus and Sybil Williamson. Also pictured is Lanette Hanna of the College's Student Services staff.

SUBMITTED PHOTO

Chelsey Thomas (left) is a second-straight recipient of The Sue Gunter Memorial Scholarship presented during the AT&T Scholarship Appreciation Luncheon held July 16 at East Central Community College in Decatur. Thomas, a returning sophomore at ECCC, is a graduate of Forest High School. The scholarship was established by Mrs. Jessie Whittle of Newton in honor of her longtime friend. Gunter, an ECCC alumnus and Leake County native, was the longtime coach of the LSU women's basketball team. Also pictured is Lanette Hanna of the College's Student Services staff.

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WEEK OF August 10, 2009

Receives scholarship

Holdiness Receives Phillips Scholarship at ECCC

Samantha Holdiness (third from left) is the 2009 recipient of The Charles and Bonnie Saxon Phillips Scholarship presented during the AT&T Scholarship Appreciation Luncheon held July 16 at East Central Community College in Decatur. Holdiness is a graduate of Nanih Waiya High School. The scholarship was endowed in 2005 by Charles Phillips, ECCC Class of 1938, and his wife, Bonnie Saxon Phillips. Also pictured are donor representatives (from left) Charles and Glenda Malone, and Kent Holdiness (right), Samantha's father. More than 90 scholarships totaling approximately $70,000 were awarded at the annual event, which recognizes donors and recipients of various scholarships. AT&T has sponsored the scholarship appreciation luncheon since 2003. (EC Photo)

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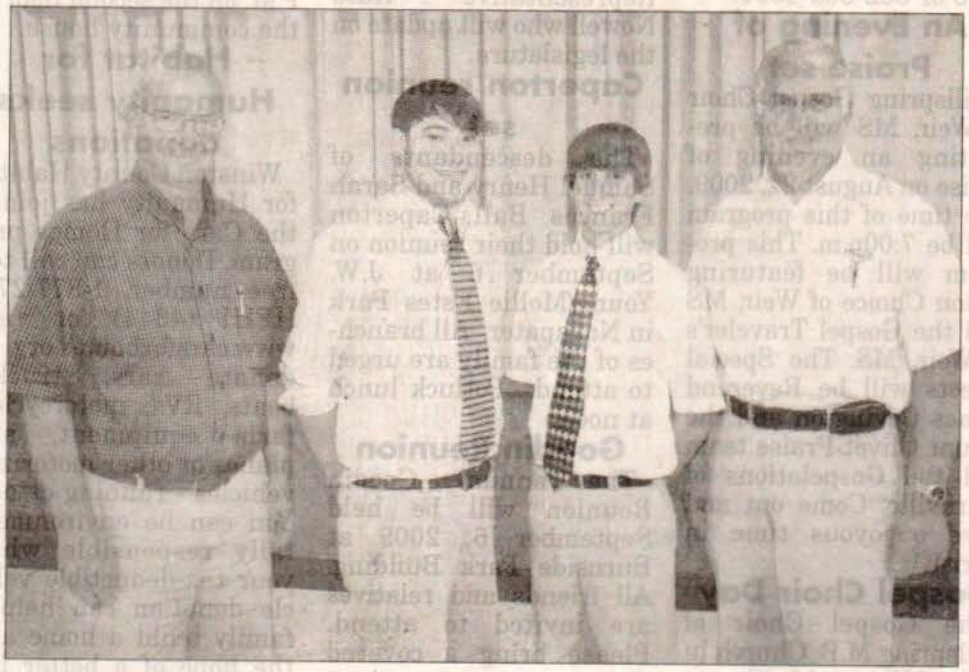
Scholarship winners



Taylor Scholarship Recipients at ECCC
Andy Coleman (second from left) and Eric Jones (third from left) are the 2009 recipients of The Taylor Advanced Machining and Advanced Welding Scholarship presented during the AT&T Scholarship Appreciation Luncheon, held July 16 at East Central Community College in Decatur. Coleman and Jones are graduates of Louisville and Neshoba Central high schools, respectively. Also receiving a scholarship but not pictured is Bo Jack Vanlandingham, a graduate of Noxapater High School. Also pictured are Taylor representatives Bobby Ellis (left) and Rod Shealy (right). More than 90 scholarships totaling approximately $70,000 were awarded at the annual event, which recognizes donors and recipients of various scholarships. AT&T has sponsored the scholarship appreciation luncheon since 2003. (EC Photo)

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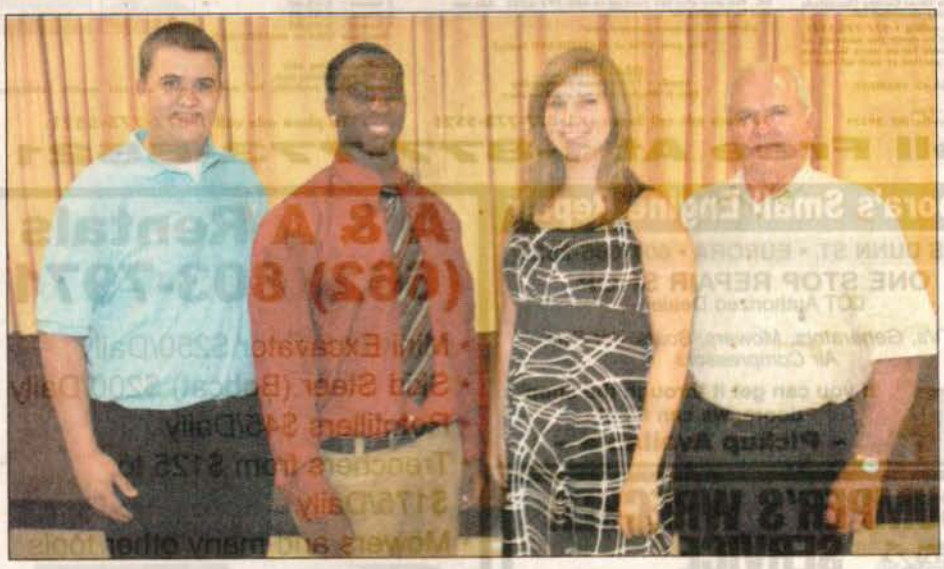
Scholarship winners



Winston Students Receiving Supervisor Scholarships at ECCC
These students from Winston County are recipients of Mississippi Association of Supervisors Scholarships, which were presented during the AT&T Scholarship Appreciation Luncheon held July 16 at East Central Community College in Decatur. Scholarship recipients and their respective high schools are (from left) Tyler Hampton, Winston Academy; and Fred Hampton and Meredith Jones, both of Nanih Waiya. Also pictured is Winston County supervisor Jerry Estes. More than 90 scholarships totaling approximately $70,000 were awarded at the annual event, which recognizes donors and recipients of various scholarships. AT&T has sponsored the scholarship appreciation luncheon since 2003. (EC Photo)

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WEEK OF August 10, 2009

Scholarship winner

Woodruff Receives Wilkes-Palmer Scholarship at ECCC

Katie Woodruff (left) is the 2009 recipient of The Wilkes-Palmer Scholarship presented during the AT&T Scholarship Appreciation Luncheon held July 16 at East Central Community College in Decatur. Woodruff is a graduate of Louisville High School. The scholarship was established by the late Ms. Elgie Chatham in honor of her parents. Also pictured is Romonica Evans of the College's Student Services staff. More than 90 scholarships totaling approximately $70,000 were awarded at the annual event, which recognizes donors and recipients of various scholarships. AT&T has sponsored the scholarship appreciation luncheon since 2003. (EC Photo)

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ECCC students receive academic awards

SPECIAL TO THE TIMES

Career award recipients include Jesse Holloway of Decatur, cabinetmaking; Charles Sloan of Louisville, carpentry; Jill Rushing of Philadelphia, cosmetology; Austin Vernon and Clancy Scarbrough, both of Louisville, welding and cutting Taylor Cup; and Chester Whittle of Philadelphia, "Career Student of the Year."

Technical awards were presented to Jason Calcote of Natchez and Jonathan Chapman of Newton, collision repair; Dennis Anderson of Union, automotive technology; Ancarisa Macon of Louisville, early childhood education; Tyler Walker of Louisville, computer technology; Logan McDonald of Conehatta, electrical; Diane Berthelette of Forest, electronics; Vincent Wilson of Choctaw, heating and air conditioning; Trenee Edwards of Carthage, hotel and restaurant management; Keevin Windham of Carthage, machine shop; Evan Summers-Jones of Walnut Grove, network support; and Josh Dickerson of Union, "Technical Student of the Year."

Recipients of healthcare education awards included Kristi Stapp of Louisville, Associate Degree Nursing Outstanding Achievement; Margaret Cravens of Louisville, practical nursing; and Robert Richardson of Decatur, paramedic technology.

Those receiving special awards were Anna Laurie Ezell of Union, citizenship; Dominique McKee of Newton, Ann H. Burkes Phi Theta Kappa; Josh Luckett of Carthage, Anthony Coleman Men's Basketball; Daniel Johnson of Union, Alford J. Deaton Physics; Emilee Lanier of Little Rock, ECCC Concert Choir; Tanika Robinson of Forest, EC Environmental Club; Kayla Nixon of Bay Springs, ECCC Gospel Choir; Emilee Lanier of Little Rock and McClain Mullins of Tupelo, ECCC Players; Brandon McNeece of Carthage, Richard Fisher Organic Chemistry; Emily Pace of Newton, Kappa Kappa Iota; Aaron Snell of Lake, S. Lebrun Hutchison Award;

Daniel Bankston of Walnut Grove, Codee Russell of Philadelphia, Aaron Snell of Lake and Anna Switzer of Meridian, all recipients of the freshman mathematics award; Daniel Johnson of Union and David Mart of Forest, both recipients of the sophomore mathematics award; Beth Stephens of Lawrence and Windie Poston of Philadelphia, both recipients of the Mississippi Business Educators Association awards; Bailey Brown of Morton, Margaret Mosal Award for Leadership; Anna Laurie Ezell of Union, Shaun Cooper of Newton and Anna White of Louisville, all recipients of awards through the Mississippi Community College Creative Writing Association; Emily Pace of Newton, Myrtle R. Hutchison Elementary Education Award;

Chelsea Pugh of Hickory, Alyne Simmons Recruitment Grant; Sidney Gutierrez of Chunky and Justin Traylor of Florence, Roy Pete Awards for Soccer; Joshua Huffman of Kosciusko, Secondary Education; Kylie Ridgon of Union, The Tom Tom student newspaper award; Hannah Lee of Philadelphia, Lucille Wood Scholarship; and Daniel Johnson of Union, Walter Arno Vincent Award for Academic Excellence in Athletics.

Alumni Memorial Awards were presented to Jeremy Corley of Walnut Grove, Billy Wayne Baucum Secondary Education; Tanya Harrison of Forest, Ruth Carr-Vincent Award for Academic Excellence in Nontraditional Education; Lindsey Clark of Louisville, Opan McMullan Dickerson Elementary Education; Anna Laurie Ezell of Union, Alatha Chaney English; David Mart of Forest, W.A. Coursey Jr. Engineering; Daniel Johnson of Union, Danny Ray Killens Engineering; Kim Amerson of Decatur, Sara Carr Deaton Business Technology; Pamela Townsend of Philadelphia, Sue Yarbrough Fulgham Speech; Emilee Lanier of Little Rock, Jack B. Mayo Phi Theta Kappa; Nathaniel Tillman of Newton, William S. Giffin Men's Intramural; Hailey Moody of Preston, Homer F. Hunter Award for Athletic Managers; Matthew Lewis of Hattiesburg, Andrew F. Webb Football; Josh Luckett of Carthage, Howard Sessums Men's Basketball; Elise Gibbs of Newton, Thomas W. Thrash Scholarship; Rashima Jenkins of Bossier City, La., Earline Wood Women's Basketball; and Laken Morgan of Louisville, Dr. Edwin Miller Medical Sciences.

Faculty Memorial Awards were presented to Timothy Maloney of Meridian, Jamie Clark Memorial Award for Baseball; Jordan Gunn of Forest, Aaron R. Davis Memorial Award; Jaqlene Robinson of Noxapater, Frank Edwin and Nena Holt Leatherwood Biology Science; Lacy McMurry of Edinburg, J. Wallace Bedwell Business; Hannah Lee of Philadelphia, Frank M. Cross Freshman Chemistry; Brandon Hughes of Decatur, Robert G. Fick Memorial; Connet Herrington of Carthage, Shelby L. Harris Memorial; Kylie Rigdon of Union, Ruth Hull Wo-He-Lo yearbook; Anna Switzer of Meridian, J. Andy Miller Freshman Engineering; Jonathan Federick of Hickory, O.L. Newell Drafting; Angela Valentine of Hickory, Charles E. Pennington Business Technology; Drew Harrison of Little Rock, Laura Pearson of Louisivlle and Josh Dickerson of Union, all recipients of Mississippi Phi Beta Lambda Hall of Fame; Edgar Alvarez of Forest, Leon Eubanks Kaljyc-Peers; Jordan McMichael of Philadelphia, L. B. Simmons History; and Jordan Gunn of Forest, General William Patrick Wilson General Academic Scholarship.

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WEEK OF August 17, 2009

EC Scholarships...

ore than 90 scholarships totaling approximately $70,000 were awarded at the AT&T Scholarship Appreciation Luncheon held July 16 at East Central Community College in Decatur. AT&T has sponsored the scholarship appreciation luncheon since 2003 which honors both the recipenys and the donors.

Lauren Nicholas (left) is the 2009 recipient of The William Wade Long Scholarship. Nicholas is a graduate of Neshoba Central High School. The scholarship was endowed in 2006 in memory of Wade by his parents, Gail and Dwight Long. Representing the donors is Rusty Long (right).

Hayden Weaver, a Newton County High School grdaute, is the 2009 recipient of The Johnson Family Engineering Scholarship presented during the AT&T Scholarship. The scholarship was established in memory of Lee E. and Lizzie Graham Johnson by the children.

Ashley Walker, A Union High grad, is the 2009 recipient of The Arno and Ruth Carr Vincent Scholarship. The scholarship was established in 1999 in recognition of the former president and first lady of ECCC who served from 1953-62.

Laura Gunn, a Lake High School graduate, is the 2009 recipient of The Sylvia Ann Graham Haywood Scholarshipl. The scholarship was established in memory of Mrs. Haywood by her husband, William Thomas Haywood, a former business manager at ECCC.

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WEEK OF August 17, 2009

SUBMITTED PHOTO

Erica Williams (left) of Forest was among area students who attended the Saturday, June 20 orientation session held at East Central Community College in Decatur. Williams is shown with Practical Nursing Instructor Tosha Sanders who provided assistance to the Sebastopol High School graduate in planning her fall semester class schedule.

SUBMITTED PHOTO

Ryan Wood (right) of Morton was among area students who attended the Saturday, June 20 orientation session held at East Central Community College in Decatur. Wood is shown with Associate Degree Nursing Instructor Nan Anderson who provided assistance to the Morton High School graduate.

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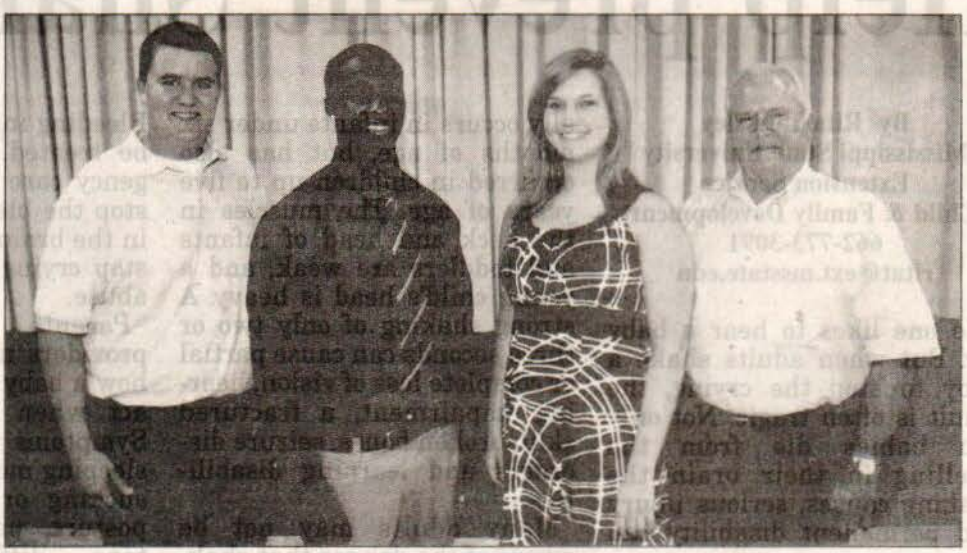
WEEK OF August 24, 2009

Correction: Scholarship winners



Winston Students Receiving Supervisor Scholarships at ECCC
These students from Winston County are recipients of Mississippi Association of Supervisors Scholarships, which were presented during the AT&T Scholarship Appreciation Luncheon held July 16 at East Central Community College in Decatur. Scholarship recipients and their respective high schools are (from left) Tyler Wright, Winston Academy; and Fred Hampton and Meredith Jones, both of Nanih Waiya. Also pictured is Winston County supervisor Jerry Estes. More than 90 scholarships totaling approximately $70,000 were awarded at the annual event, which recognizes donors and recipients of various scholarships. AT&T has sponsored the scholarship appreciation luncheon since 2003. (EC Photo)

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON COUNTY APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL ✓

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WEEK OF August 31, 2009

Students receive supervisor scholarships

SUBMITTED PHOTO

These students from Scott County are recipients of the annual Mississippi Association of Supervisors Scholarships, which were presented during the AT&T Scholarship Appreciation Luncheon held July 16 at East Central Community College in Decatur. Scholarship recipients and their respective high schools are (from left) Nicole Breedlove, Sebastopol; Kiswana Burnside, Lake; Tyler Comans, Sebastopol; Jerilyn Crosby, Scott Central; and Kim Patterson, Morton.

APPEARED IN:

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NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES ✓

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF August 31, 2009

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT ____
SCOTT COUNTY TIMES ____
WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL ✓
CLARION-LEDGER ____

ECCC names Homecoming Honorees for 2009 season

Homecoming honorees for 2009 were recently announced at East Central Community College and will be among special groups recognized at the annual celebration scheduled Saturday, Oct. 3 on the Decatur campus.

Mary Rosalyn Rogers Folks (Class of 1964) of Picayune and Jack H. Winstead (Class of 1956) of Lawrence were named Alumna and Alumnus of the Year, respectively, and Donald Acton (Class of 1953) of Knoxville, TN and Wanda Blackwell McPhail (Class of 1971) of Collinsville are slated for induction into the College's Athletic Hall of Fame, according to Stacey Hollingsworth, executive director for foundation and alumni relations.

Hollingsworth said various alumni groups will also be recognized, including members of basketball teams coached by Joe Clark (1964-1976) and Marty Cooper (1991-1998); and cast members of designated musicals directed by Bruce Peterson (Camelot, 1974; Mame, 1979; Carousel, 1982; and Oklahoma, 1985).

Reunion meetings are scheduled for the Class of 1949 and the combined Classes of 1 1958 and 1959, which r each year. Fiftieth anniver diplomas will be presente the 1959 Class by E President Dr. Phil A. Sut during a ceremony at 1 a.m. in the Vickers Fine Center.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN ____
NEWTON COUNTY APPE ____
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MERIDIAN STAR ____

WEEK OF August 31, 2009

STUDENTS PROVIDE SIGN LIGHTING

SUBMITTED PHOTO

Lights now shine on the relatively new "Welcome to Decatur" sign located on Hwy. 15, thanks to East Central Community College electrical technology students who completed the task as a community service project. Students are members of a special eight-month class taught by part-time instructor Matthew Shelley. Pictured are (kneeling from left) Austin Pullin, Philadelphia; Marshall Jones, Lake; Brent Kilpatrick, Philadelphia; and Anthony Johnson, Newton; and (standing from left) John Everett, ECCC electrical technology instructor; Clay Winstead, Philadelphia; Charles Fuller, Newton; Phillip Curry, Louisville; Zackary Cates and Daniel Gilbert, both of Enterprise; Shelley; and Decatur Mayor Randy Rushing.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

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SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES ✓

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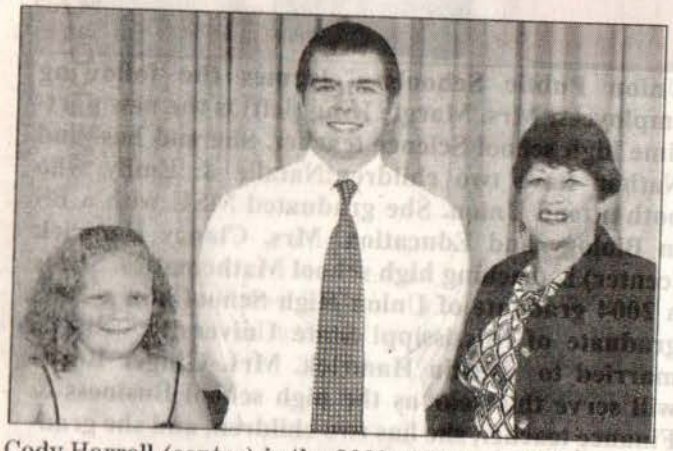
Scholarships.....

ore than 90 scholarships totaling approximately $70,000 were awarded at the AT&T Scholarship Appreciation Luncheon held July 16 at East Central Community College in Decatur. AT&T has sponsored the scholarship appreciation luncheon since 2003 which honors both the recipenys and the donors.



Cody Harrell (center) is the 2009 recipient of The Jeff and Kathy Hitt Scholarship. Harrell is a graduate of Forest High School. The scholarship was established in 2003 in Jeff's memory by his family. Representing the donors are Gillian Hitt (left), daughter of the late Jeff and Linda Hitt, and Faye Henley, Linda's mother.

These students from Newton County schools are recipients of the annual Mississippi Association of Supervisors Scholarships. Scholarship recipients and their respective schools are (from left) Brittany Brown, Newton County; Kevin Harris, Newton; and Hailey Wilkinson, Newton County. Also pictured is Newton County Supervisor Kenny Harris.

Lauren Nicholas (left) is the 2009 recipient of The William Wade Long Scholarship. Nicholas is a graduate of Neshoba Central High School. The scholarship was endowed in 2006 in memory of Wade by his parents, Gail and Dwight Long. Representing the donors is Rusty Long (right).

Courtney Lanier (center) is the 2009 recipient of The Ovid S. and Carol Vickers Scholarship. She is a graduate of Newton County High School. Also pictured are Carol and Ovid Vickers, in whose honor family and friends established the scholarship in recognition of the couple's lifetime devotion to ECCC.

WEEK OF September 7, 2009

2,841 students push EC enrollment to all-time high

A record 2,841 students have enrolled in fall classes at East Central Community College in Decatur, announced Donna Luke, dean of admissions, records and research.

The new record surpasses the previous mark of 2,735 students who registered fall classes in 2004.

The fall 2009 enrollment is also a 258-student increase compared to the 2008 fall term, when 2,583 students enrolled at the College.

ECCC President Dr. Phil A. Sutphin attributes economic conditions and the College's "affordable tuition and quality staff" as reasons for the record enrollment.

ECCC WITH YOU IN MIND

"During economic down turns, college enrollment usually increases as people who may have lost their jobs are going to college to learn another trade or enter a new profession. Some also return to the classroom to receive specialized training to improve their workforce skills," Dr. Sutphin said. "Of course we offer an educational bargain at East Central, with tuition at $800 per semester. We also have an excellent faculty and staff who are committed to serving students of all ages."

East Central serves Leake, Neshoba, Newton, Scott and Winston counties.

For more information contact the Office of Admissions, Records and Research, 601-635-2111 or call toll free, 877-462-3222, ext. 205. The email address is dluke@eccc.edu.

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WEEK OF September 7, 2009

Graduation

ECCC PRACTICAL NURSING GRADUATES ANNOUNCED

SUBMITTED PHOTO

East Central Community College Practical Nursing graduates were recognized Tuesday, August 4, during a pinning ceremony held in Vickers Fine Arts Auditorium on the Decatur campus. Those completing the 12-month program included (seated, from left) Jessie Critz of Philadelphia, Courtney DuBose of Meridian, Carmen Braddy of Forest and Schanda Wilson and Angela Dean, both of Meridian; and (standing, from left) Amanda Warren of Forest, Chrystal Wilkins of Preston, Kristi Shaw of Louisville, Cheyenne Gross of Carthage, Whitney Houston of Louisville, Mark Engram of Conehatta and Maggie Cravens of Louisville. Cravens was also recognized as Practical Nursing Student of the Year. Instructors are Theresa Cole, Kelly Miller, Melanie Pinter and Tosha Sanders.

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WEEK OF September 7, 2009

POSTHUMOUS GED

SUBMITTED PHOTO

Ruby Moore accepts the diploma of her daughter, the late Dasmine Shepard of Forest, from East Central Community College President Dr. Phil A. Sutphin at the recent 2009 GED Graduation Ceremony on the Decatur campus. Shepard was 17 years old when she was killed in an automobile accident one month prior to the July 23 program. She was a former student at Lake High School and planned to major in sociology at ECCC. Approximately 75 students received GED diplomas at the annual event.

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WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

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WEEK OF September 14, 2009

ECCC CHEERLEADERS WIN AWARDS

SUBM

Members of the cheerleading squad at East Central Community College in Decatu home various awards following Universal Cheerleaders Association camp in Tu Alabama. The group received superior and excellent ribbons in the cheer, sideline song categories and were also awarded first place in the junior college divisio overall fight song category. Squad members and their respective high school (front row, from left) Chelsea Jones, Enterprise; Hannah Alley, Union Grove (Mcl Ga.); Robyn Fanning, Philadelphia; Abby McMillan and Anna Williams, both o County Academy; and Ashley Amis, Newton County; and (back row, from left) Dus art, Louisville; Richie Ferguson, Newton County; Will Emmons, Lake; Paul Davic and Cody Ming, both of Winston Academy; and Dayton Johnson and Josh Jarrie Neshoba Central. Not pictured are Monica Vincent and Adrienne McDill, both o County; Brandon Kennedy, Union; and Liz Withers, Neshoba Central. Shelley Thor as coach.

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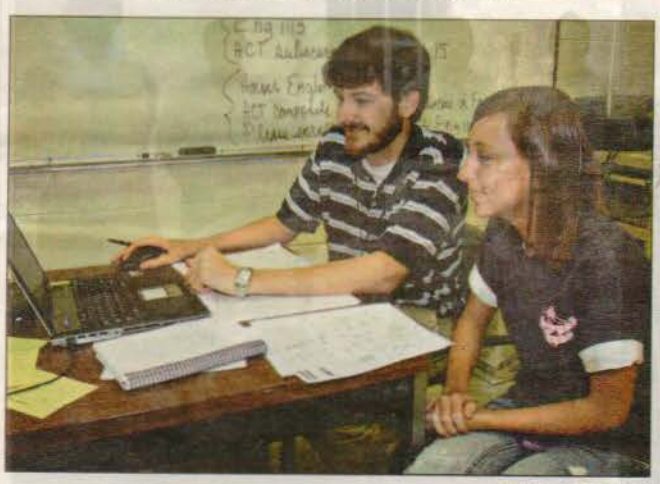
WEEK OF September 14, 2009

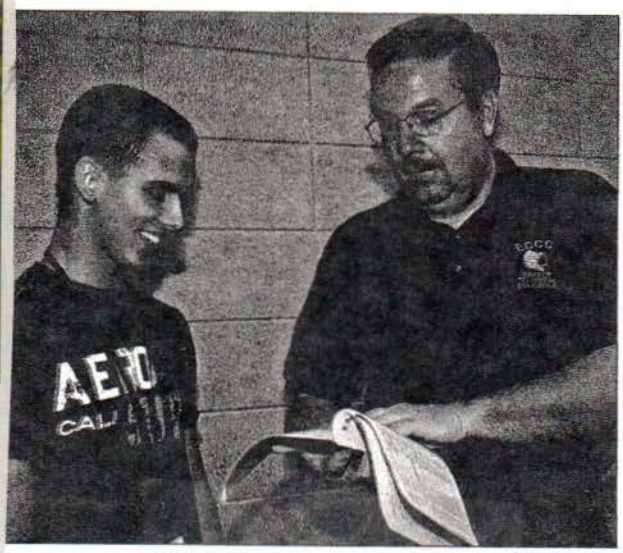
BROWN ATTENDS ECCC ORIENTATION



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Abby Brown (right), a 2009 graduate of Scott Central High School, was among the record 406 students who attended the June 5 Orientation session held at East Central Community College in Decatur. She is shown preparing her fall class schedule with the assistance of instructor and science department chairperson Curt Skipper. In addition to registering for fall classes, students can learn about the various opportunities available on the ECCC campus.

FORTENBERRY ATTENDS ORIENTATION



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Forest High School graduate Jamie Fortenberry (left) was among the record 406 students who attended the June 5 Orientation session held at East Central Community College in Decatur. Assisting him with his fall class schedule is ECCC Electrical Technology Instructor John Everett. In addition to registering for fall classes, students can learn about the various opportunities available on the ECCC campus.

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WEEK OF September 14, 2009

ECCC announces record enrollment

SPECIAL TO THE TIMES

A record 2,841 students have enrolled in fall classes at East Central Community College in Decatur, announced Donna Luke, dean of admissions, records and research.

The new record surpasses the previous mark of 2,735 students who registered for fall classes in 2004.

The fall 2009 enrollment is also a 258-student increase compared to the 2008 fall term, when 2,583 students enrolled at the college.

ECCC President Dr. Phil A. Sutphin attributes economic conditions and the college's "affordable tuition and quality staff" as reasons for the record enrollment.

"During economic down turns, college enrollment usually increases as people who may have lost their jobs are going to college to learn another trade or enter a new profession. Some also return to the classroom to receive specialized training to improve their workforce skills," Dr. Sutphin said. "Of course we offer an educational bargain at East Central, with tuition at $800 per semester. We also have an excellent faculty and staff who are committed to serving students of all ages."

East Central serves Leake, Neshoba, Newton, Scott and Winston counties.

For more information contact the Office of Admissions, Records and Research, (601) 635-2111 or call toll free, (877) 462-3222, ext. 205. The e-mail address is dluke@eccc.edu.

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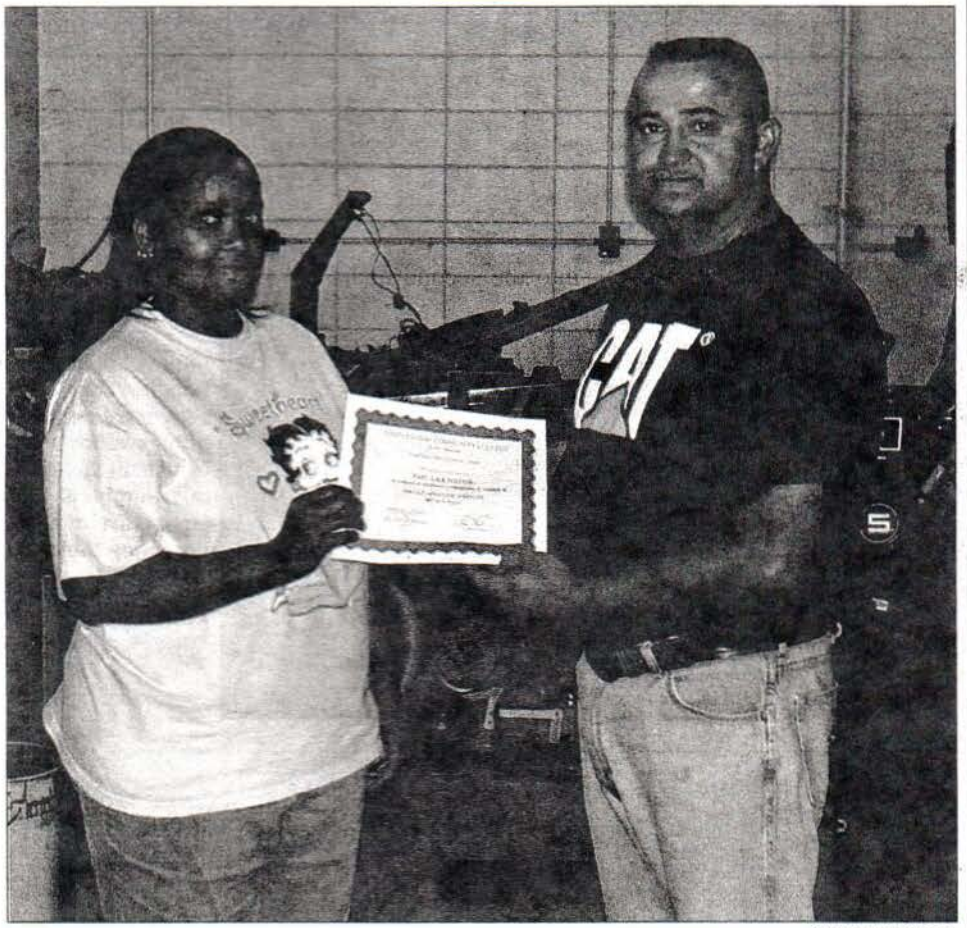
WEEK OF September 14, 2009

BRAZIL COMPLETES SMALL ENGINE REPAIR CLASS AT ECCC



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Tijuana Brazil, of Carthage, (pictured left) recently completed a Small Engine Repair class ideal for learning the theory of operation, carboration, ignition systems, and internal engine components. Brazil said that she "enrolled in the class because she was interested in learning more about small engines so that she would be able to repair equipment around her home and also to enable her to help others." Brazil also stated that she would be interested in attending a more advanced small engine class from ECCC if one was offered. Others receiving certificates of completion, but not pictured, are Willis Barton of Walnut Grove, Robert (Sid) Etie of Decatur, Dennis Goss of Louisville, and I.C. Kincaid and Bryson Wilder, both of Carthage. Gary Sanford (pictured right) served as instructor. Registration for a new Small Engine Repair Class will take place on Thursday, October, 1, 2009, at 5:30 p.m. in ECCC's Productivity Enhancement Lab located in the Philadelphia/Neshoba County Career-Technical Center. For more information on this class and others being offered, contact Chris Clark, ECCC Workforce Development Coordinator, phone (601) 635-6245 or call toll free, 1-877-462-3222, ext. 245; Blake Warren, Advanced Skills Trainer, phone (601) 389-0832; or visit www.eccc.edu/workforce. Their e-mail address is cclark@eccc.edu or bwarren@eccc.edu.

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WEEK OF September 28, 2009

ECCC STUDENTS REMEMBER 9-11

SUBMITTED PHOTO

The tragic events of Sept. 11, 2001, were remembered by East Central Community College students during a brief ceremony

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2009 East Central band 'Headed to New Orleans'

East Central Community College in Decatur fields one of its largest marching bands to date with 155 members in the 2009 Wall O' Sound and they'll be "making their way to New Orleans" during this year's show. Tom Carson, who is serving his 28th year as director of bands at East Central, explains the idea behind the show.

Carson

"I am always coming up with some zany ideas that will be entertaining, but of course, musically challenging and great sounding. Since we have never done a Mardi Gras-type show, I decided to put together some music and ideas with the premise that the Wall O' Sound is headed to New Orleans and Mardi Gras."

During the first few halftime shows, the Wall O' Sound Band has been slowly making their way to New Orleans via train, steamboat and other means. According to Carson, they will finally make their way to the "Big Easy" on Homecoming day, which is Saturday, October 3.

"Our closer begins with a cute little 'second line' band coming on the field, then expands to a flamboyant vocalist leading the entire band in song and ends with the entire Wall O' Sound finishing up the loud and exciting parade! We plan to have the crowd on its feet celebrating Mardi Gras, Wall O' Sound style!" Although he's put together a show full of fun and excitement, it's the sound that matters most to Carson.

Brownlee

"No matter what we do, the music always comes first and foremost," Carson said. "I bring that home to my band members daily. Entertainment is great, but we are musicians first and our fans expect to hear a great sounding, polished band."

And to get that polished sound, members start practicing long before that first kick-off."We come in the week before school starts and rehearse an entire week, from sun up to sun down and beyond!" Carson said. "Band camp is a very important time, as we can concentrate on 'just us.' Once classes start, our rehearsals are from 3:30 to 5 p.m. each day.

Some of the smaller groups, such as the drum line, Centralettes and color guard, have extra section rehearsals at other times."In addition to performing halftime shows during all home football games, the Wall O' Sound will also be featured as an exhibition band at the State Band Marching Festival in Meridian on Aug. 10 and at the Chunky River Marching Festival in Union on Aug.17. The drum line will take a tour of area high schools in late October.

Patrick

The spring semester will feature the concert band, percussion ensemble and jazz band.The Collegians, ECCC's rock-n-roll band, will take to the stage during both the fall and spring semesters and Carson said the highlight of the year is the annual summer Collegian performance tour."This is always a very big recruiting tool for us, as many students decided to attend ECCC and audition for The Collegians, hoping to be able to go on tour in the summer. This May we will be featured entertainers aboard a Carnival Cruise ship,"he said.With such a diverse band program, one would think there was nothing more to offer. Except, the blues, of course.

"Something new, or should I say a revival, I am planning this year, is to bring back a group I had in the early 90s called the 'Round Midnite Blues Band," said Carson. "This group will basically be a branch of The Collegians, and we will play your basic, fun blues material in the style of Stevie Ray Vaughn, Lonnie Mack, BB King and so forth. We plan to play home basketball games and anywhere we are asked to play!"

Among Carson's wish list for the ECCC band program is more space."Although we have great facilities," Carson said, "We have totally outgrown our space and we hope, in the near future, to have a band facility that will be the envy of the state! Of course, we always have on-going needs for large instrumental and equipment purchases as the band grows. I certainly appreciate any contributions former band members or any fan of the band can make through our 'Friends of The Wall' O Sound' foundation fund."

Hillman

For more information or to make a contribution to the "Friends of the Wall O' Sound," contact Stacey Hollingsworth in the office of Foundation and Alumni Relations at 601-635-6327.

There are many reasons for students to choose East Central Community College as the next step in their education and the Wall O' Sound is among the top of the list."When it is time to make a decision where to attend college and also to use your musical talents to help pay for your education, ECCC is the only logical choice!" Carson said.

"Not only will you have the best faculty to instruct you, no matter what your major will be, but you will be in the most exciting, rewarding and diverse college band program anywhere! Many of our members love the band so much, they stay for several years!" Carson, who is the

See **ECCC**, page 13

Serving as Drum Majors for the Wall O' Sound Marching Band at East Central Community College in Decatur are Ysabel Avalos (right) and Brandon Boulton.

WEEK OF September 28, 2009

EC's Wall O' Sound band

East Central Community College in Decatur fields one of its largest marching bands to date with 155 members in the 2009 Wall O' Sound.

In addition to performing halftime shows during all home football games, the Wall O' Sound will also be featured as an exhibition band at the State Band Marching Festival in Meridian on Aug. 10 and at the Chunky River Marching Festival in Union on Aug.17. The drum line will take a tour of area high schools in late October.

The spring semester will feature the concert band, percussion ensemble and jazz band.

Tom Carson is serving his 28th year as director of bands at East Central.

Local schools are represented by these band members..

Color Guard.... Brittany Fedrick, Sebastopol; Kim Ammerson, Newton County; Kelsey Sikes, Carthage; Candie Willis, Union; Miata Evans, Newton

Trumpet... Austin Jay, Union

Tuba... Ryan Gillis, Newton County

Flute... Malesha Clay, Union

Trumpet... Justin Adcock, Newton County

Clarinet.. Marquita Moore of Newton

Assistant Drum Major... Brandon Bolden, Newton County

Pit Section.... Stacy Willis, Union; and Tiffany Herrington, Newton County

Battery Section.... Cash Brown, Newton County

Centrallettes... Savanna Smith, Newton County; Dentra Darden, Nanih Waiya; Hannah Watkins, Sebastopol Allison Lowery

Centrallettes... Jamie Vance,

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WEEK OF October 5, 2009

ECCC HOMECOMING COURT

SUBMITTED PHOTO

Members of the 2009 Homecoming Court at East Central Community College in Decatur include: front row, from left, freshman maids Breanna Foley of Newton, Sarah Breland of Philadelphia, Celia Boggan of Decatur and Alexis Young of Forest; queen Reshetta Benton of Forest, maid-of-honor Hannah Lee of Philadelphia and sophomore maids Kimberly Blackwell, Anna Fulton and Alison Lowery, all of Louisville; and (back row, from left) escorts Teddy Bloodsaw of Forest, Nathan Calvert of Louisville, Justin Gates of Decatur, Randall Hudson of Forest, Steve Edwards Jr. of Newton, Allen Johnson of Lena, Michael Hardy of Philadelphia, Brandon Kennedy of Union and Matt Woods of Philadelphia.

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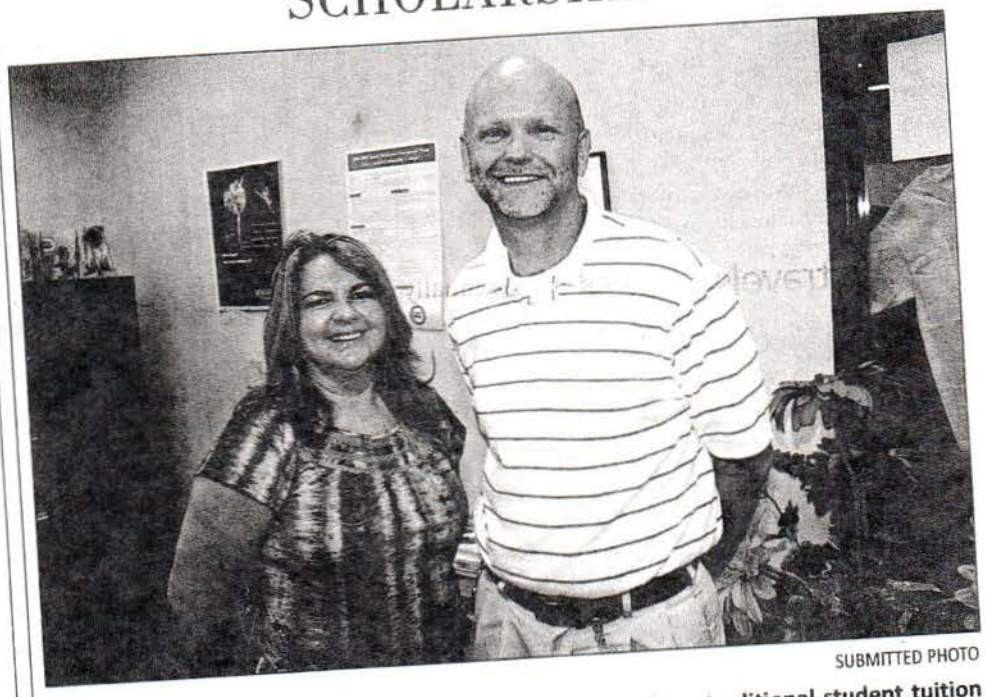
WEEK OF October 5, 2009

ALEXANDER RECEIVES ECCC SCHOLARSHIP



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Tracy Alexander (left) of Forest is a recent recipient of a non-traditional student tuition scholarship for full-time students provided at East Central Community College in Decatur. She received the award from Joe Killens (right), vice president for student services. The scholarship is available to Mississippi residents at least 23 years of age who meet stated qualifications. The award provides tuition for three consecutive semesters of coursework after students complete 12 semester hours of credit as a part-time or full-time student at ECCC. Alexander, 40, is a pre-nursing major and 1987 graduate of Lake High School. She is married to David Alexander. They have a son, Erik.

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WEEK OF October 5, 2009

GORDY RECEIVES PACE SCHOLARSHIP

SPECIAL TO THE TIMES

Marissa Gordy (center) of Forest is the 2009 recipient of The Polk and Jennie Pace Scholarship provided at East Central Community College. Gordy, a graduate of East Rankin Academy, received the award at the annual AT&T Scholarship Appreciation Luncheon held on the Decatur campus. She is pictured with the Pace's daughter, Reba Debari and her husband Gerald, of Pensacola, FL. The scholarship was endowed in March 1997 by Mr. Pace's widow, Scott County native Jennie Thrash Pace of Newton, their children and grandchildren and other family members and friends. The scholarship honors Mr. Lawrence Polk Pace, a Conehatta native, who was a "strong believer in education." Pace attended EC in 1929.

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WEEK OF October 12, 2009

ECCC hosts singing

National recording artist Rev. Andrew Cheairs and The Songbirds of Grand Junction, Tenn., and 2009 Steller Award winner Harvey Watkins, Jr. and The Canton Spirituals of Canton, Miss., headline an evening of gospel singing scheduled Sunday, Oct. 18, 2009, at East Central Community College in Decatur.

Also performing will be The Junior Angels of Newton, The Kings of Joy of Philadelphia, The Heavenly Wonders of Jackson, The Gospel Angels of Montrose, Purpose of Byram, Rev. Louis Johnson and The New Gospel Deliverers of Meridian and John T. Lewis and The New Gospel Keystones of Jackson.

The program begins at 5 p.m. in Huff Auditorium. Doors open at 4 p.m.

For ticket information, contact the Rev. Pervis Mann, 800-373-1526.

ECCC to host district choral festival

The East Central Community College Division of Fine Arts will host its annual High School Choral Festival Thursday, Oct. 22, on the Decatur campus. High school choirs from throughout the district, which includes Leake, Neshoba Newton, Scott and Winston counties, will be in attendance and will present a mass choir performance at 1:30 p.m. in Huff Auditorium.

Selections for the program will include "The Word Was God," by Powell, "Kyrie" by Gabriella and "Wade in the Water" by Hogan. Parents are invited to attend and there is no charge for admission.

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WEEK OF October 12, 2009

ECCC Collegians selected for 2009-10

Members of the East Central Community Collegians were recently chosen for 2009-10, announced director Thomas W. Carson who also plays guitar in the College's popular rock 'n' roll band. Selections were made following auditions held on the Decatur campus.

Vocalists include Courtney Gammill, Lake; Nathan Spears, of Neshoba Central High School; and Drew Harrison, Jessy Harrison, Brandon Hughes, Tiffany Spence and Monica Vincent, all graduates of Newton County High School.

Members of the rhythm section are Lacy Gilmore (keyboards), Newton County; Jordan Vance (electric guitar), Trinity Episcopal, Natchez; Colby Horton (bass guitar), Neshoba Central; Robbie Faulk (drum set), Winston Academy; and Leslie Graham (percussion), Forest.

Wind section members include Graylon Foster (first trumpet), Philadelphia; Christina Gibbs (second trumpet), Lake; Ruby McCurdy (third trumpet), Carthage; and Bobby Branning (mellophone), West Lauderdale.

Technicians are Clay Winstead and Mikhail Serio and Tyler Woods, all of Neshoba Central; Logan McDonald, Newton County; Dustin Gibbs and Brandon Gibbs, both of Lake; Robert Hisaw, Louisville; DJ Harris, Sumrall; and Austin Jay, Union.

The fall semester concert is scheduled at 8 p.m. Monday, Nov. 16 in Huff Auditorium. There is no charge for admission.

For more information, contact Carson, 601-635-2111 or call toll free, 877-462-3222, ext. 228. The e-mail address is tcarson@eccc.edu.

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WEEK OF October 12, 2009

Wall O' Sound Drum Majors

Serving as Drum Majors for the Wall O' Sound Marching Band at East Central Community College in Decatur are Ysabel Avalos (right) and Brandon Boulton. A sophomore, Avalos serves as head drum major and band president. She is a graduate of Morton High School, where she served as drum major for the Panther Pride Marching Band. She is the daughter of Frenando and Mirtha Avalos of Morton. Boulton serves as assistant drum major and is a freshman from Newton County High School. He served two years as drum major for the Cougar Marching Band and received all-superior ratings at state festival. In addition, he received all-superior and best in class in the West Lauderdale Excalibur Marching Festival. He is the son of Nelda McDonald and James Boulton, both of Decatur. Thomas W. Carson is serving his 28th year as Director of Bands at ECCC and Jared Brownlee begins his 12th year as assistant band director. (EC Photo)

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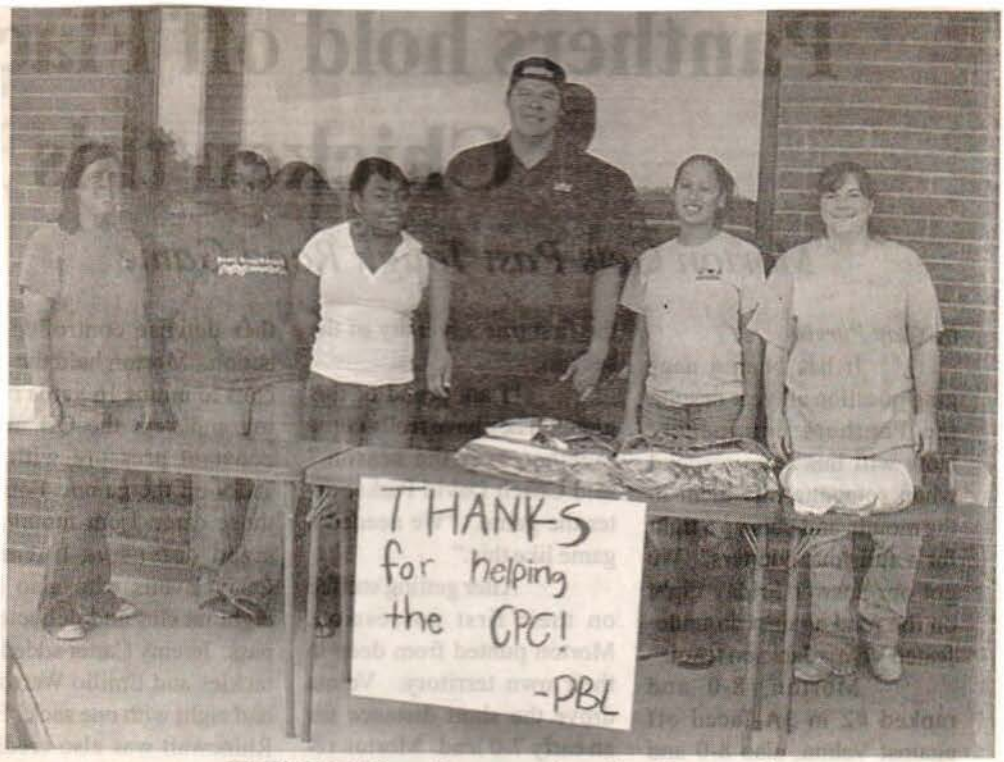
WEEK OF October 19, 2009



ECCC Students Assist Local Crisis Pregnancy Center

Members of Theta Chi Chapter of Phi Beta Lambda at East Central Community College kicked off their 2009-2010 Community Service Project on Sept. 19, 2009. Each year Phi Beta Lambda members select a community service project for their local chapter. This year's project will entail members assisting the Crisis Pregnancy Center in Philadelphia. The students provided lunch for the workers at the new CPC site in Philadelphia. Six members assisted serving the workers by providing sandwiches, chips, brownies and drinks for the men working at the site. Students participating in the service include chapter members (from left) Brandi Bounds of Philadelphia, Lakeshia Boyd of Forest, Shikira Moore, Stuart Willis, and Shelvie Dixon, all of Philadelphia; and Jeni Collins of Union. The chapter also assisted the CPC by hosting a baby shower for the center recently on the Decatur campus. (EC Photo)

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WEEK OF October 26, 2009

MASH OPENS TONIGHT

SUBMITTED PHOTO

The "Bonwit" sisters perform "Boogie Woogie Bugle Boy" during this scene from the East Central Community College dinner theater production of the comedy "M*A*S*H," by Tim Kelly. From left are Holly Webb (Agnes Bonwit) of Forest, Casey Rowzee (Fritzi Bonwit) of Newton and Courtney Gammill (Mitzi Bonwit) of Lawrence. Performances are scheduled Oct. 30-31 and Nov. 2-3 beginning at 7 p.m. in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria on the Decatur campus. Tickets are $15. For more information, contact the ECCC Communications Office, (601) 635-2111 or call toll free, 877-462-3222.

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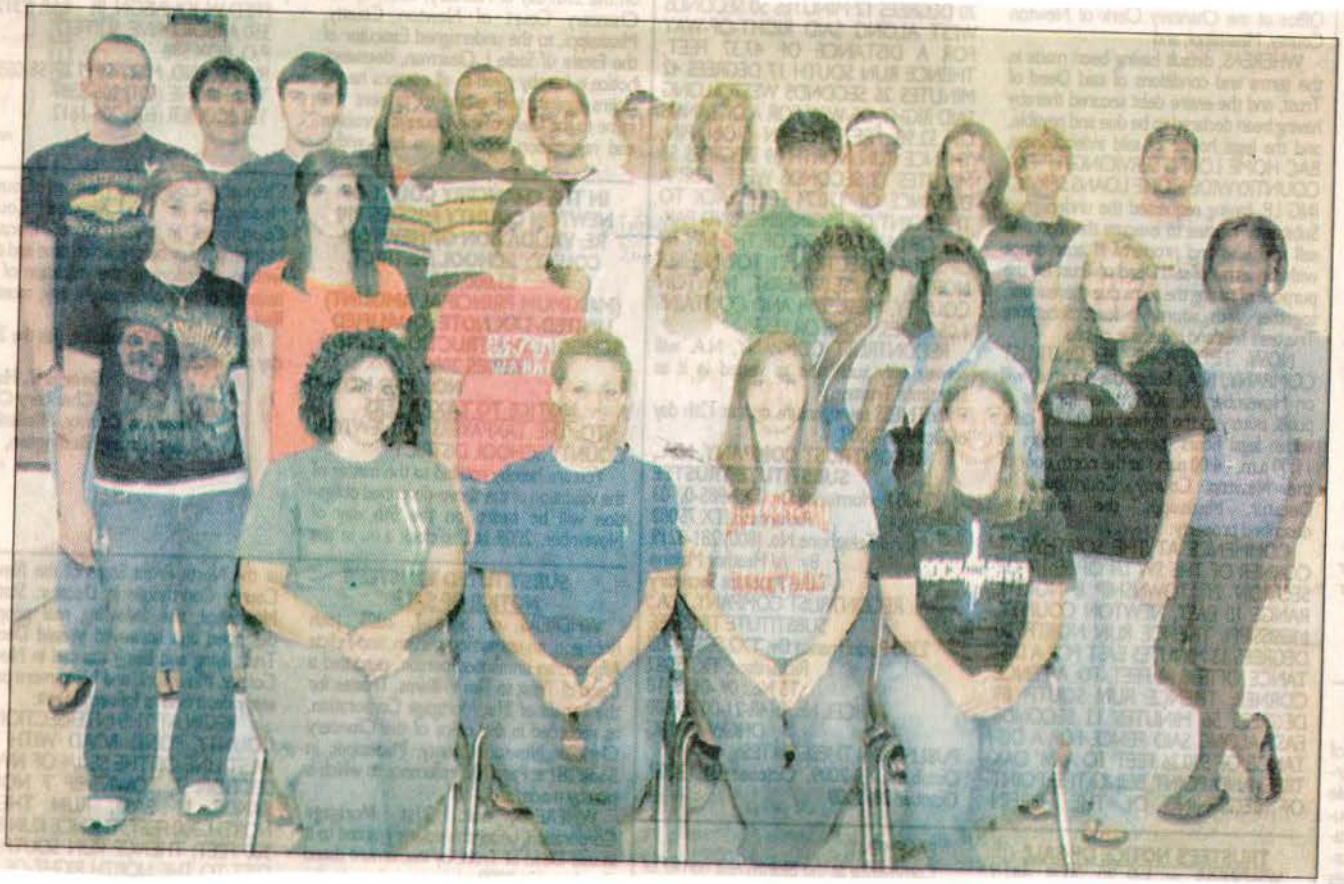

The East Central Community College Players' will present Tim Kelly's "M*A*S*H" at 7 p.m. October 30-31 and November 2-3, 2009. The annual dinner theater will be held in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria on the Decatur campus. Tickets are available for $15 each by calling the College switchboard at 601-635-2111 or toll free 1-877-462-3222. There will also be matinee performances at 9 a.m. October 28-29 for $5. The comedy is directed by Joan Grimes, who also serves as the College's Director of Tech Prep Education. Cast and crew members and their respective hometowns include (seated, from left) Courtney Gammill of Lake, Holly Webb of Forest, Casey Rowzee of Newton and Stacy Willis of Union; (second row, from left) Ayla Smith of Decatur, Meredith McKee of Philadelphia, Marissa Gordy of Forest, Lindsey Bishop of Sebastopol, Carla Cook of Jackson, Halie Sweeney of Enterprise, Candie Willis of Union and Amanda Hampton of Louisville; (third row, from left) Cody Walters of Forest, Brandon Hughes, J'Markus Dubose and Matt Griffin, all of Union; Gunner Gentry of Decatur, Nickie Farmer of Hickory and Dayton Johnson of Philadelphia; (back row, from left) Brennan Graves of Lena, Jody Lawson of Hickory, Drew Harrison of Beulah Hubbard, Lance Goodin of Louisville, Jesus Martinez of Grenada and Lynford Seibel of Newton. (EC Photo)

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WEEK OF November 2, 2009

Felton presented scholarship

EC Photo

Jennifer Felton, center, of Lawrence is the 2009 recipient of the State Farm Insurance Company Scholarship provided at East Central Community College in Decatur. Felton, 27, is a freshman elementary education major. The nontraditional student is a 2000 graduate of Newton County Academy. She is married to Jason Felton and they have two young children, Brandon and Natali. Pictured with the scholarship recipient are State Farm agents Bob Douglas, left, of Newton and Sam Nowell of Philadelphia. The State Farm Insurance Company Scholarship was established to provide financial assistance to older students who reside in the ECCC district, which includes Leake, Neshoba, Newton, Scott and Winston counties. For more information contact ECCC Student Services, 601-635-2111 or call toll free, 877-462-3222, ext. 205.

APPEARED IN:

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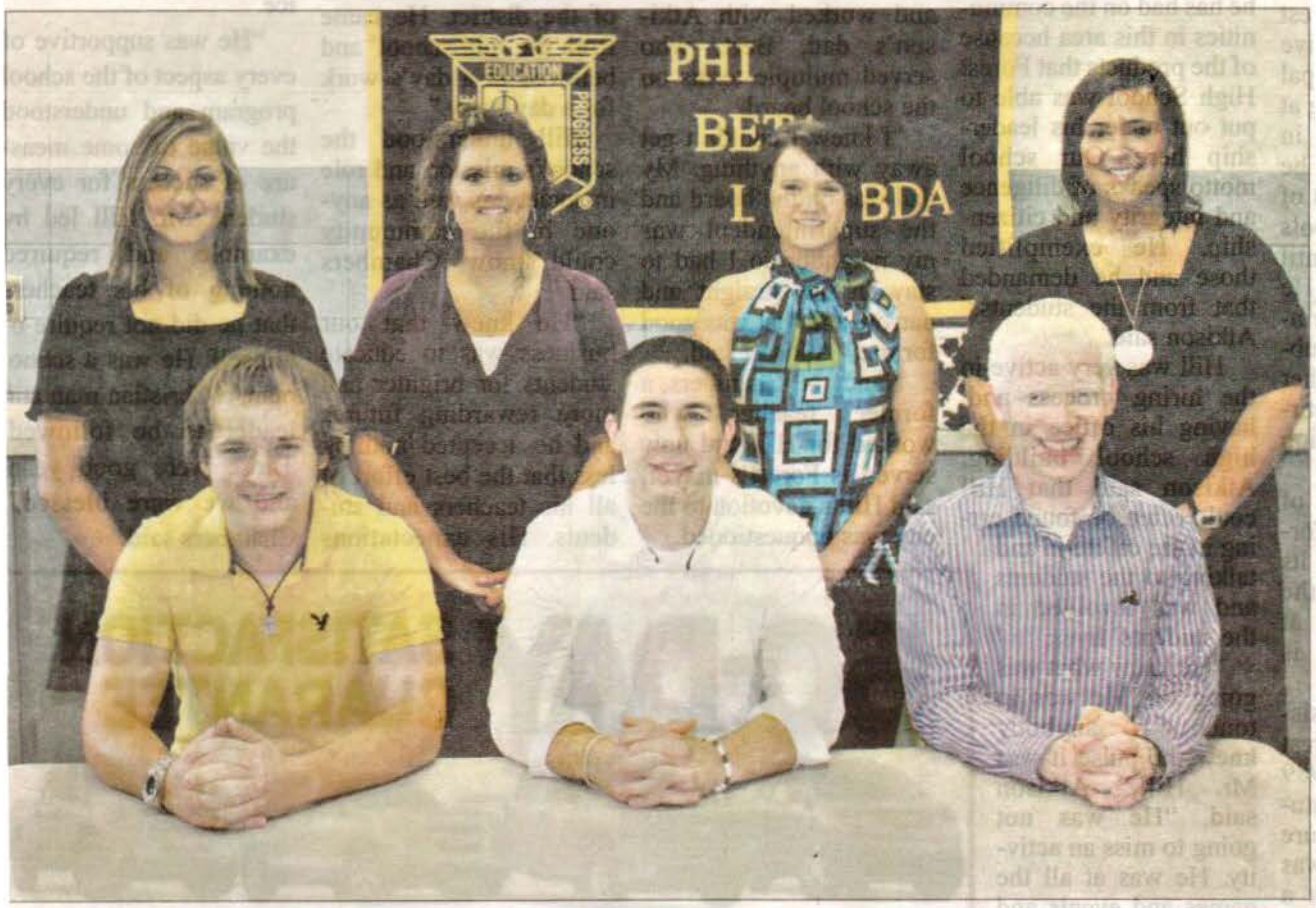
WEEK OF November 2, 2009

Phi Beta Lambda announces officers



SUBMITTED PHOTO

These East Central Community College students serve as 2009-10 officers of Theta Xi Chapter of Phi Beta Lambda, an organization for business students. Seated from left are Zach Gibbs, president, and Chance Hall, vice president, both of Forest; and Ryan Gillis of Newton, parliamentarian. Standing from left are Abby McMillan, reporter, and Brittany Morrison, historian, both of Newton; Emily Malone of Carthage, secretary and Morgan Deweese of Philadelphia, treasurer. Phi Beta Lambda is the premier business association preparing students for careers in business and success in life. Its purpose is to foster a better relationship between one another and to cultivate a better understanding of business principles in general.

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EC student dies in accident

By Bill Graham
Appeal Managing Editor

An East Central Community College student who died last week is being remembered by friends and classmates for her smile and outgoing personality.

Whitley Fisher, a sophomore at the college, was killed Thursday afternoon in a car accident on Decatur Conehatta Road.

The accident happened at about 4:00 Thursday when she was headed toward Decatur from her home in Lake.

According to Sheriff Jackie Knight, Fisher ran off the right side of the road, then crossed the roadway as she tried to regain control of the vehicle.

The vehicle plunged about 20 feet down into a ravine, hitting a pine tree. Emergency personnel from the Decatur Volunteer Fire Department, Newton County Sheriff's Office and LifeCare Ambulance Service responded to the call, said Decatur VFD Chief Steve Baggett.

Whitley Fisher

Fisher, 19, was a 2008 graduate of Newton County High School, where she was an honor roll student.

On Friday, several of Fisher's classmates gathered near the scene of the accident, about three miles from the ECCC campus.

"She was a really sweet girl," said Carla Fisher (no relation), who shared a class with the young woman last semester.

EC freshman Kristen Everett, who sang with Fisher in the college's choir, remembered her friend's smile.

Continued on Page 9, see Accident...

ECCC student Carla Fisher stands at the site of the crash Friday afternoon. The two young women were not related.

...Accident

Continued from 1A

"Everytime she comes in she's got a big smile on her face. It makes everybody laugh," she said.

By Tuesday, a cross and flowers had appeared at the crash scene, and a group memorializing Fisher on the website Facebook had grown to more than 900 people.

"Whitley, I just can't believe you're gone," wrote Tammie Snowden Sant, a friend.

"I loved seeing that beautiful smile when you'd come through the lunch line at Newton County."

VA; two nephews, Jacob Lavender and Jamie Record; one niece, Allison Record; aunt and uncle Ed and Donna Evans, Lake; aunt Lana Renfrow, Forest; uncle, Dale Watkins, Madden. Honorary Sister Erin Plunkett, Lake.

She was preceded in death by grandparents, Goldie Evans of Lake, and Imogene Fisher.

Pallbearers were Randy Hawthorne, Tom Walker, Jeff Fountain, Danny Williams, Jessie Holloway and Daniel Moody. Honorary pallbearer was Dustin Stewart.

Visitation was Saturday, November 07, 2009 5 until 9 p.m. at Wolf Funeral Services in Morton.

Whitley Ann Fisher

Services for Whitley Ann Fisher were held Sunday, November 08, 2009 at 2 p.m. at Forest Baptist Church with burial following in Pine Ridge Cemetery in Lawrence. Rev. Ryan Culpepper and Rev. Bobby Boyles officiated. Wolf Funeral Services in Morton was in charge.

Whitley Ann Fisher, 19, a resident of Lake passed away Thursday, November 5, 2009 at Newton Regional Hospital, Newton. Whitley had lived in Lake for the past fourteen years, moving from Carthage. She was a member of Sandridge Baptist Church, Lake, and was a member of the ECCC Concert Choir, and was a 2008 graduate of Newton County High School.

She is survived by parents, Jimmy and Fay Fisher, Lake; two sisters Teresa Brooks and husband Randy, Lake; Tammy Record and husband Art, Chesapeake,

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WEEK OF November 9, 2009

Collegians To Present Campus Concert Nov. 16... The Collegians, East Central Community College's rock-n-roll band, will present their fall campus concert at 8 p.m. Monday, November 16, in Huff Auditorium. The popular group will perform songs by artists such as Lady Gaga, Boys Like Girls, Carrie Underwood, Led Zeppelin and many others. Admission is free and the public is invited to attend. Collegian members and their respective high schools include (front row, from left) Jordan Vance, Trinity Episcopal in Natchez; Brandon Hughes, Newton County; Courtney Gammill, Lake; Jessie Harrison, Tiffany Spence and Monica Vincent, all of Newton County; Nathan Spears, Neshoba Central; and Drew Harrison, Newton County; (second row, from left) Mikhail Serio, Carthage; Dustin Gibbs, Lake; Robbie Faulk, Winston Academy; and Colby Horton, Neshoba Central; (top row, from left) Leslie Graham, Forest; Graylon Foster, Philadelphia; Ruby McCurdy, Carthage; Christina Gibbs, Lake; Bobby Branning, West Lauderdale; Lacey Gilmore, Newton County; Brandon Gibbs, Lake; D.J. Harris, Sumrall; Tyler Woods and Clay Winstead, both of Neshoba Central; Austin Jay, Union; and Robert Hisaw, Nanih Waiya

East Central Community College
P.O. Box 129 • Decatur, MS 39327
1-877-462-3222 • www.eccc.edu

POSITION AVAILABLE

• Secretary to the Director of Financial Aid

Specific job requirements available at www.eccc.edu/employment

Deadline for Application
December 2, 2009
Date of Appointment
December 14, 2009

For more information contact:
Mrs. Brenda Carson,
Director of Financial Aid
Phone: 601-635-6378
e-mail: bcarson@eccc.edu

East Central Community College does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, religion, or age in admission or access to, or treatment or employment in its programs and activities. Compliance with Section 504 and Title IX is coordinated by Dr. Virginia Sparkman, Vice President for Instruction, P.O. Box 129, Decatur, MS 39327, Phone: 601-635-6207, Fax: 601-635-4011, email: hsparkman@eccc.edu

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WEEK OF November 9, 2009

ECCC CAMPUS LEADERS

SUBMITTED PHOTO

Pictured above are 2009-2010 student government leaders at East Central Community College in Decatur. Students and their respective high schools include (seated, from left) Edgar Alvarez of Forest, Student Body Association (SBA) president; Kerri Cook of Carthage, SBA vice president; and Kyle Killens of Newton County, SBA treasurer; and (standing, from left) freshman class officers Christian Ortega of Forest, president; Alejandro Chavez of New Albany, vice president; Anna Alexander, a homeschooler from Little Rock, secretary; Ben Stewart of Grenada, treasurer; sophomore class officers Hannah Lee of Leake Academy, president; Kimberly Blackwell of Nanih Waiya, vice president; Lacey Gilmore of Newton County, secretary; and Abby McMillan of Newton County Academy, treasurer. Not pictured is Cody Walters of Forest, SBA secretary. Vice President for Student Services Joe Killens serves as sponsor.

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WEEK OF November 9, 2009

ECCC Phi Beta Lambda Members

Phi Beta Lambda members for 2009-10 have been announced for East Central Community College in Decatur. Phi Beta Lambda is the premier Business Education Association preparing students for careers in business and success in life. Its purpose is to foster a better relationship between one another and to cultivate a better understanding of business principles in general. Members include: (front row, from left) Alisia Nene, Shikira Moore, Cassidy Shoemake and Brandi King, all of Philadelphia; Casey Shoemaker of Decatur, Zach Gibbs, president and Candise Johnson, both of Forest; Emily Malone, secretary, of Carthage; Brandy Talbert of Philadelphia, Kim Amerson of Decatur, Brittany Morrison, historian, of Newton; Lachelle Moss and Anna Alexander, both of Little Rock; Marie Townsend of Newton; (second row, from left) Jason Hancock of Decatur, LaKeshia Boyd of Preston, Mia Claiborne and Abby McMillan, reporter, both of Newton; Audrianna Walker of Forest, Rhonda Lard of Meridian, Paula Covarrubias of Standing Pine, John Blount, Cody Spence and Morgan Bailey, all of Philadelphia; Eliska Slaughter of Morton, Kristina Bell of Conehatta and Sabrina Monk of Newton; (back row, from left) Morgan Deweese and Tracy Triplett, both of Philadelphia; Dianne Campbell of Union, Nikisha Gibson of Newton, Ava Green of Magee, Kimberly Goodin of Newton, Reshelle Williams of Lake, Chazene Hickman, Sidney Williams and Carrie Alexander, all of Philadelphia; Jeremy Saucier of Decatur, Terrell Jones of Lake, Gerald Mann of Carthage, Bryan M. Wiseman of Newton, Matt Griffin of Union, Chance Hall, vice president of Forest and Ryan Gillis, parliamentarian of Decatur. Not pictured, Asia Tingle of Newton. (EC Photo)

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WEEK OF November 16, 2009

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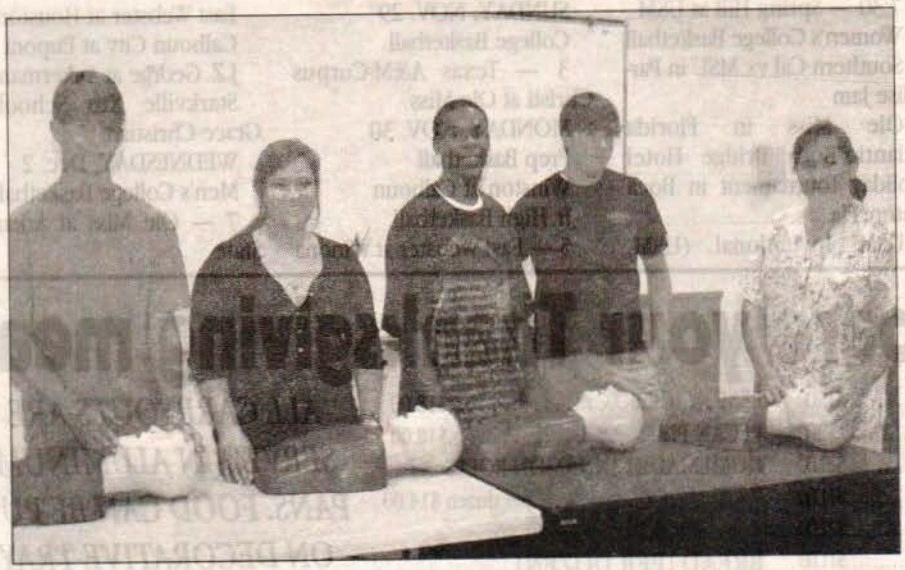

ECCC students learn CPR skills

Donna Pace (right) of Newton Regional Hospital recently instructed students in CPR training as a part of Lucille Wood's First Aid class at East Central Community College in Decatur. Pictured with Pace are (from left) Luke Brown of Carthage, Brooklynn Boyette of Noxapater, Cody Barber of Forest and Brian Felton of Chunky. (EC Photo)

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November 16, 2009

ECCC Ac'cents to present Fall Concert Dec. 3

The East Central Community College Ac'cents show choir will present its fall campus concert at 7 p.m. Thursday, December 3, in Vickers Fine Arts Auditorium on the Decatur campus. The public is invited and there is no charge for admission.

Ac'cents director Vicki Blaylock said of the upcoming performance, "This year's Ac'cents take the stage with members that are not only solo entertainers in their own right, but blend with the entire group vocally. They bring lots of experience and showmanship that promises to make for an exciting night of song and dance."

The popular group will present such hits as "Rock This Town" by Stray Cats, "Man in the Mirror" by Michael Jackson, "We Belong" by Pat Benatar, "Reeling in the Years" by Steely Dan and "September" by Earth, Wind and Fire.

Ac'cents members and their respective high schools include Casey Rowzee, Newton County Academy; Tiffany Spence, Drew Harrison, Lane Fulton, Cody Strait, Brandon Hughes, Jessica Harrison, Richie Ferguson, Polly Vaughn, Monica Vincent and Brandon Boulton, all of Newton County and Laura Gunn of Lake.

Jonathan Crabtree of Warren Central and Tyler Laird of Newton County serve as sound technicians.

The East Central Community College Ac'cents show choir will present its fall concert at 7 p.m. Thursday, December 3 Ac'cents members and their respective high schools include (front row, from left) Polly Vaughn and Monica Vincent, both of Newton County; (second row, from left) Lane Fulton and Jessica Harrison, both of Newton County; Laura Gunn, Lake; Casey Rowzee, Newton County Academy; and Tiffany Spence and Brandon Hughes, both of Newton County; and (back row, from left) Cody Strait, Drew Harrison, Richie Ferguson and Brandon Boulton, all of Newton County. Not pictured are sound technicians Jonathan Crabtree of Warren Central and Tyler Laird of Newton County. Vicki Blaylock serves as director. (EC Photo)

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WEEK OF November 16, 2009

ECC Student Assoc

ECCC Student Education Association

Members of the Student Education Association at East Central Community College include (front row, from left) Abby McMillan of Newton, Brittany Snow of Philadelphia, Chris Tatum of Decatur, Stewart Frey of Louisville and Kelsey Hill of Nanih Waiya; and (back row, from left) Sylvia Wright (co-sponsor), Jennifer Moore and John Carl Riser, both of Forest; Meredith Jones of Louisville and Robin Fulton (co-sponsor). The purpose of the Student Education Association is to give the student practical experience in teacher-teacher and teacher-student relations. (EC Photo)

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WEEK OF November 16, 2009

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WEEK OF November 16, 2009

ECCC announces band members

SUBMITTED PHOTO

These students are baritones, bass clarinetists and tenor saxophonists in the Wall O' Sound Marching Band at East Central Community College in Decatur. Pictured are (front row, from left) Matthew Long, Neshoba Central; and Ian Miles, Philadelphia; and (back row, from left) Proby Gammill, Lake; and Clay Winstead and Matt Woods, both of Neshoba Central. Thomas W. Carson is serving his 28th year as Director of Bands and Jared Brownlee begins his 12th year as assistant band director.

SUBMITTED PHOTO

These students are members of the flute section in the Wall O' Sound Marching Band at East Central Community College in Decatur. Pictured are (front, from left) Sallie Evans, Carthage; Julia Patrick, Scott Central; Brittany Bozeman, Neshoba Central; and Jennifer Moore, Forest; and (back, from left) Chassidy Kelly, Carthage; Malesha Clay, Union; Dezaraye Burton, Neshoba Central; and Katie Palmer, Carthage. Not pictured is Meagan Morris, Neshoba Central. Thomas W. Carson is serving his 28th year as Director of Bands and Jared Brownlee begins his 12th year as assistant band director.

SUBMITTED PHOTO

These students are members of the tuba section in the Wall O' Sound Marching Band at East Central Community College in Decatur. Pictured are (front row, from left) Ellis Pinkard, Carthage; Shunn Frazier, Ackerman; Tabatha Moore, Carthage; and Lindsey Stuart, Sebastopol; and (back row, from left) Jon Hillman, Neshoba Central; Ryan Gillis, Newton County; Patrick Reid, Louisville; and Brandon Gibbs, Lake.

SUBMITTED PHOTO

These students are members of the mellophone and alto saxophone section in the Wall O' Sound Marching Band at East Central Community College in Decatur. Pictured are (front row, from left) Audrey Cannon, Northwest Rankin; Megan Mayes, Sebastopol; Lacey Gilmore, Newton County; and Xavier Rodgers, Louisville; and (back row, from left) Courtney Patrick, Forest; Paige Jones, Newton County; Kevin Haynes, Louisville; Stacy Henderson, Raleigh; and Shaquinta Ickom, Lake.

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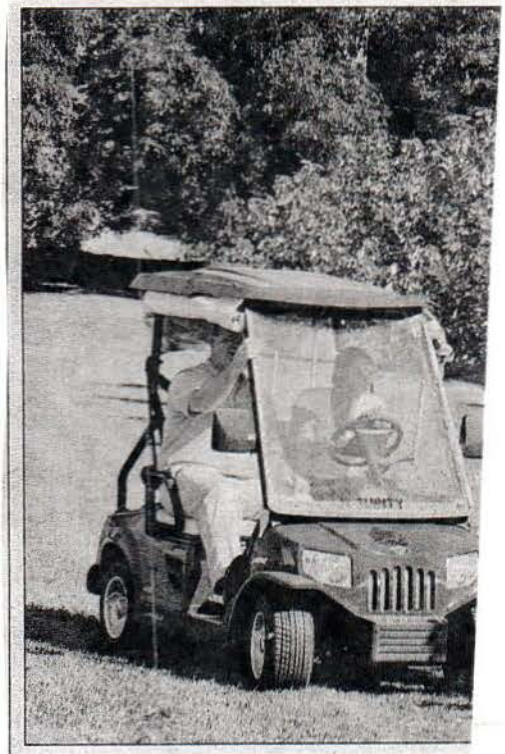

A simulation for students to show the ef use was held recently on the campus of Ea munity College in Decatur. The College anc Alcohol Beverage Control held a driving ence demonstration where students wc Goggles which changed their vision to t under the influence of different levels o Hanna, ABC Agent in Charge District 3 anc dent Life/Public Safety Jonathan Peeples event for the College. Feeling the effect: Sophomore Nicole Gray of Forest, takes oriented spin in the golf cart with Peeple

WEEK OF November 16, 2009

ECCC PHI THETA KAPPA OFFICERS

SUBMITTED PHOTO

Serving as officers of East Central Community College's Theta Xi Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa, the international honor society for two-year colleges, are (from left) Kimberly Blackwell of Louisville, vice president of members; Jordan Gunn of Forest, vice president of fellowship; Brandon Hughes of Union, vice president of leadership; Kurt Simoneau of Louin, president; Kyle Ethridge of Decatur, vice president of scholarship; Paul Sewell of Leesburg, vice president of service; and Abby McMillan of Newton, vice president of public relations. The PTK leaders are shown following their participation in the annual Fall Induction Ceremony held on the Decatur campus. Faculty members Kate Covich and Curt Skipper serve as Theta Xi advisers.

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WEEK OF November 16, 2009

SUBMITTED PHOTO

ECCC PHI BETA LAMBDA MEMBERS

Phi Beta Lambda members for 2009-10 have been announced for East Central Community College in Decatur. Phi Beta Lambda is the premier Business Education Association preparing students for careers in business and success in life. Its purpose is to foster a better relationship between one another and to cultivate a better understanding of business principles in general. Members include: (front row, from left) **Alisia Nene, Shikira Moore, Cassidy Shoemake** and **Brandi King**, all of Philadelphia; **Casey Shoemaker** of Decatur, **Zach Gibbs**, president and **Candise Johnson**, both of Forest; **Emily Malone**, secretary, of Carthage; **Brandy Talbert** of Philadelphia, **Kim Amerson** of Decatur, **Brittany Morrison**, historian, of Newton; **Lachelle Moss** and **Anna Alexander**, both of Little Rock; **Marie Townsend** of Newton; (second row, from left) **Jason Hancock** of Decatur, **LaKeshia Boyd** of Preston, **Mia Claiborne** and **Abby McMillan**, reporter, both of Newton; **Audrianna Walker** of Forest, **Rhonda Lard** of Meridian, **Paula Covarrubias** of Standing Pine, **John Blount**, **Cody Spence** and **Morgan Bailey**, all of Philadelphia; **Eliska Slaughter** of Morton, **Kristina Bell** of Conehatta and **Sabrina Monk** of Newton; (back row, from left) **Morgan Deweese** and **Tracy Triplett**, both of Philadelphia; **Dianne Campbell** of Union, **Nikisha Gibson** of Newton, **Ava Green** of Magee, **Kimberly Goodin** of Newton, **Reshelle Williams** of Lake, **Chazene Hickman, Sidney Williams** and **Carrie Alexander**, all of Philadelphia; **Jeremy Saucier** of Decatur, **Terrell Jones** of Lake, **Gerald Mann** of Carthage, **Bryan M. Wiseman** of Newton, **Matt Griffin** of Union, **Chance Hall**, vice president of Forest and **Ryan Gillis**, parliamentarian of Decatur. Not pictured, **Asia Tingle** of Newton.

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WEEK OF November 23, 2009

Keeping roadways

ECCC Students helping keep highways clean

These East Central Community College students display several bags of trash recently collected on Hwy. 15 south of Decatur. The students are members of Theta Xi Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa, the international honor society for two-year colleges, and participate in the highway clean-up as a community service project. From left are Jordan Gunn, Forest; Kelly Dansby, Philadelphia; Kurt Simoneau, Louin; Morgan Wells, Madison; Tyler Jones, Walnut Grove; Kimberly Blackwell, Louisville; Abby McMillan, Newton; Jason Watkins, Brandon; Jaqlene Robinson, Noxapater; Drew Evans, Forest; and Anna Fulton, Louisville. Also pictured is Theta Xi co-adviser Curt Skipper. (EC Photo)

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WEEK OF November 23, 2009

ECCC Gospel Choir Performs...East Central Community College's Gospel Choir members are shown prior to their fall concert held recently on the Decatur campus. The theme of the 2009 performance was "Making a Difference." The Rev. Jason Cole of Mt. Moriah Church in Newton was guest speaker. Choir members include (first row, from Bay Springs; Santanna Wilson, Louisville; Xavier Rodgers and Dyron Hay Louisville; Angelica Dukes, Louin; Sabrina Markette Robinson, Ackerman; M ond row, from left) Asia Tingle, Newton; Danielle Eiland, Louisville; Kelli Nixo Zeric Townsel, Starkville; Kuriakis Glass, Louisville; Dee Martin and Verick Jefferson, Batesville; (third row, from left) Bianca Thomas and Mercedes Bro Darius Walker, Hickory; Deiguyrus Holden, Decatur; Damion Young, Pelaha Benton, Forest; and (fourth row, from left) Shakira Gaddis, Chunky; Alisha K Jr., Philadephia; Jermaine Jones; Ronnie White, Forest; Keith Phillips, Carthage; Keyshawn Harrison; Kidd, Newton; and Jamiah Gallaspy, Decatur. (EC Photo)

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

NEWTON COUNTY APPEAL ✓

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

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WEEK OF November 23, 2009

ECCC Gospel Choir performs

East Central Community College's Gospel Choir members are shown prior to their fall concert held recently on the Decatur campus. The theme of the 2009 performance was "Making a Difference." The Rev. Jason Cole of Mt. Moriah Church in Newton was guest speaker. Choir members include (first row, from left) Miata Evans, Newton; Jasmine Earby, Morton; Kayla Nixon, Bay Springs; Santanna Wilson, Louisville; Xavier Rodgers and Dyron Haynes, both of Louisville; Donnatello Pittman, Lake; Tom Jackson, Louisville; Angelica Dukes, Louin; Sabrina Markette Robinson, Ackerman; Melanie Johnson, Ridgeland; and Brenda K. Johnson, sponsor; (second row, from left) Asia Tingle, Newton; Danielle Eiland, Louisville; Kelli Nixon, Bay Springs; Jessica Rushing, Pachuta; Jackie Leggette, Meridian; Zeric Townsel, Starkville; Kuriakis Glass, Louisville; Dee Martin and Vericka Willis, both of Meridian; Felicia Stevens, Heidelberg; and Britney Jefferson, Batesville; (third row, from left) Bianca Thomas and Mercedes Brown, both of Forest; Tanecia Keyes, Louin; Deedrea Davies, Louisville; Darius Walker, Hickory; Deiguyrus Holden, Decatur; Damion Young, Pelahatchie; Reggie Davis, Decatur; Alexis Boyd, Pelahatchie; and Reshetta Benton, Forest; and (fourth row, from left) Shakira Gaddis, Chunky; Alisha Rankin, Port Gibson; Quaniesha Higgins, State Line; Lawrence Davis, Jr., Philadephia; Jermaine Jones; Ronnie White, Forest; Keith Phillips, Carthage; Keyshawn Harrison, Decatur; Sharday Hornsby, Morton; Maree Kidd, Newton; and Jamiah Gallaspy, Decatur. (EC Photo)

APPEARED IN:

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WEEK OF November 23, 2009

ECCC Student recruiters

These students are members of the East Central Community College Warrior Corps, a select group that assists in recruiting and provides assistance for various event and activities on the Decatur campus. Members and their respective hometowns include (first row, from left) Monica James, Carthage; Tamara McPhail, Pelahatchie; Kim Patterson, Morton; Leanne White, Carthage; Jessica Hamilton, Louisville; Amanda Griffith, Edinburg; Brittany Snow, Philadelphia; Abby McMillan and Adrienne McDill, both of Newton; Sarah Breland, Philadelphia; Rochelsay Thomas, Forest; Hannah Peoples, Newton; Anna Alexander, Little Rock; and Marty Kirk, Noxapater; (second row, from left) Lindsey Bishop, Sebastopol; Sami Elkins, Lena; Brittany Cochran, Hickory; Summer Alexander, Little Rock; Amelia Burnside, Edinburg; Miriah Barney, Reaghan Mayes and Jennifer Moore, all of Sebastopol; Colby Harvey, Newton; Kim Amerson and Celia Boggan, both of Decatur; and Jenny Holyfield, Little Rock; (third row, from left) Lacey Gilmore, Sebastopol; Marissa Gordy, Forest; Meredith McKee, Brandy Talbert, John Blount and Jessica Kilpatrick, all of Philadelphia; Edgar Alvarez, Forest; Hannah Lee and Lauren Nicholas, both of Philadelphia; Anna Fulton, Louisville; Abbie Joiner, Philadelphia; and Bailey Brown, Morton; and (fourth row, from left) Morgan Deweese, Philadelphia; Asia Tingle and Junenette Harris, both of Newton; Lance Goodin, Louisville; Trey Herrington, Union; Reggie Davis, Decatur; Jacob Drury, Louisville; Brandon Kennedy, Union; Cody Spence, Philadelphia; Jordan Smith, Union; and Samantha Holdiness, Kelsey Hill, Stewart Frey, Kimberly Blackwell and Meredith Jones, all of Louisville. Student Services staff members Lanette Hanna and Romonica Evans serve as advisers. (EC Photo)

APPEARED IN:

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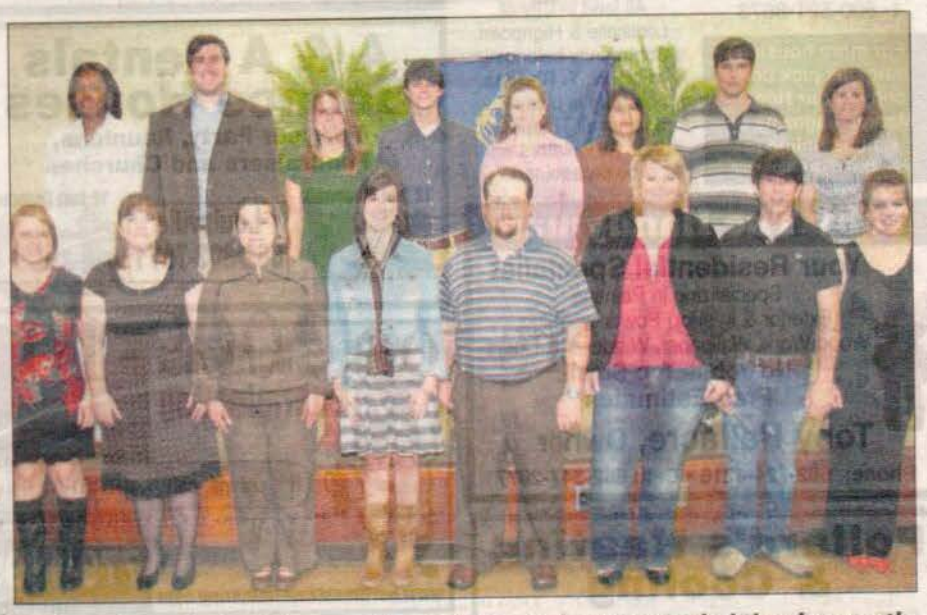
WEEK OF November 23, 2009

Tapped for ECCC Honor Society



These East Central Community College students recently joined a prestigious organization following their induction into Theta Xi Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa, the international honor society for two-year colleges. Membership is by invitation only and requires a minimum a 3.5 grade point average earned as a full-time student. Inductees and their hometowns include (first row, from left) Tanesha Ann Barham, Philadelphia; Jeni Collins, Union; Melissa Ann Cox, Raleigh; Kelly Faye Dansby, Philadelphia; Edward Owen Fondren, Union; Kelly Demar George, Philadelphia; Benjamin Bryce Hall, Morton; and Candise Renee Johnson, Forest; and (back row, from left) Makisha Shanta Johnson, Newton; Todd Alexander Johnson, Louisville; Mary Margaret Kirk, Noxapater; Joseph Dale McNeill, Louisville; Katelyn A. Thomas, McCool; Jason Richard Watkins, Brandon; Florabel Ramon Withers, Carthage; and Misty Latimer, Philadelphia. ECCC faculty members Kate Covich and Curt Skipper serve as Theta Xi advisers.

APPEARED IN:

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OF December 1, 2009

ECCC Cheerleaders

Serving as East Central Community College cheerleaders for 2009-10 and their respective high schools are (front row, from left) Anna Williams, Newton County Academy; Monica Vincent, Ashley Amis, and Adrienne McDilll, all of Newton County; Chelsea Jones, Enterprise; Hannah Alley, Union Grove (Ga.); Abby McMillan, Newton County Academy; and Robyn Fanning, Philadelphia; and (second row) Richie Ferguson, Newton County; Josh Jarriel, Neshoba Central; Dustin Stewart, Louisville; Brandon Kennedy, Union; Paul David Hatcher, Winston Academy; Dayton Johnson, Neshoba Central; Will Emmons, Lake; and Cody Ming, Winston Academy. Shelley Thoms serves as cheer coach.

(EC Photo)

APPEARED IN:

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WEEK OF December 1, 2009

Winston Warriors

Winston County Warrior Corps Members

Students from Winston County who are members of the East Central Community College Warrior Corps include (first row, from left) Stewart Frey, Louisville; Marty Kirk, Noxapater; and Samantha Holdiness and Jessica Hamilton, both of Louisville; and (top row, from left) Anna Fulton, Lance Goodin, Jacob Drury, Kimberly Blackwell and Kelsy Hill, all of Louisville. The Warrior Corps is a select group that assists in recruiting and provides assistance for various events and activities on the Decatur campus. Student Services staff members Lanette Hanna and Romonica Evans serve as advisers. (EC Photo)

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WEEK OF 12-7-09

CULPEPPER

Carthaginian awarded EC scholarship

Sophomore nursing major Corinne Culpepper of Carthage is the recipient of the Stella Weathersby Newsome Scholarship at East Central Community College.

The scholarship honors the memory of Ms. Newsome, who served the college as a literature instructor and in various other capacities for 30 years from 1928-58, and is awarded each year to a freshman nontraditional student 23 years old or older who enrolls as a full-time student on the Decatur campus.

Culpepper has two daughters, Sarah Beth Pierce and Mary Grace Pierce, and is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Purvis Culpepper, all of Carthage.

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WEEK OF December 7, 2009

Scott County Warrior Corps Members

Students from the Scott County area who are members of the East Central Community College Warrior Corps include (first row, from left) Meaghan Mayes and Reaghan Mayes, both of Sebastopol; Sami Elkins, Lena; Lindsey Bishop, Sebastopol; Rochelsey Thomas, Forest; and Kim Patterson, Morton; and (top row, from left) Miriah Barney, Sebastopol; Tamara McPhail, Pelahatchie; Marissa Gordy, Jennifer Moore and Edgar Alvarez, all of Forest; and Bailey Brown, Morton. The Warrior Corps is a select group that assists in recruiting and provides assistance for various events and activities on the Decatur campus. Student Services staff members Lanette Hanna and Romonica Evans serve as advisers. (EC Photo)

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CLARION-LEDGER _____

ECCC announces band members

SUBMITTED PHOTO

These students are members of the clarinet section in the Wall O' Sound Marching Band at East Central Community College in Decatur. Pictured are (front row, from left) Jessica Cherry, Carthage; Tyler Brewer, Forest; Valerie Holmes, Louisville; Cherish Brown, Morton; and Marquitta Moore, Newton; and (back row, from left) Ashley Floyd, Jessica Kendrick and Hanna Burt, all of Neshoba Central; Demetria Coleman, Louisville; and Carollyn Young, Neshoba Central.

SUBMITTED PHOTO

These students serves as managers for the Wall O' Sound Marching Band at East Central Community College in Decatur. Pictured are (front row, from left) Nicole Franklin of Philadelphia, Amanda Hampton of Nanih Waiya and Sara Williams of Philadelphia; and (back row, from left) Tyler Woods of Neshoba Central; James Latiker of Carthage; and Robert Hisaw of Nanih Waiya.

SUBMITTED PHOTO

These students are members of the trombone section in the Wall O' Sound Marching Band at East Central Community College in Decatur. Pictured are (front row, from left) Marlon Evans, Philadelphia; Jamie Fortenberry and Leslie Graham, both of Forest; Courtney Gammill, Lake; DeAngelo Stribling, Neshoba Central; and Corbin Jenkins, Carthage; and (back row, from left) Gareth Driskill, West Lauderdale; Edmund Fisher Jr., Philadelphia; Drew Johnston, Carthage; Cartelius Lewis, Philadelphia; Caleb Jay, Neshoba Central; and Brecia Hornesbuger, Louisville. Not pictured is Griffin Burk, Neshoba Central.

SUBMITTED PHOTO

These students are members of the pit section in the Wall O' Sound Marching Band at East Central Community College in Decatur. Pictured are (front row, from left) Brittany Gibbs, Lake; Teddy Bloodsaw, Forest; Stacy Willis, Union; and Tiffany Herrington, Newton County; and (back row, from left) Jonathan Crabtree, Warren Central; Dale Alberts, West Lauderdale; D.J. Harris, Sumrall; Robbie Faulk, Winston Academy; and Brandon Hughes, Newton County.

WEEK OF 12-14-09

SUBMITTED PHOTO

Paige Richardson (fifth from left) of Philadelphia and Corey Jones (sixth from left) of Newton were recently selected Most Beautiful and Most Handsome, respectively, at East Central Community College in Decatur. Also pictured are beauties and beaus (from left) Nathan Calvert and Anna Fulton, both of Louisville; Colton Amis of Decatur, Morgan Bailey of Philadelphia, Richardson, Jones, Sarah Breland of Philadelphia, Jason Hancock of Decatur, Hannah Lee of Philadelphia and Cody Ming of Louisville.

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WEEK OF 12-14-09

Benton crowned ECCC Queen

SUBMITTED PHOTO

Reshetta Benton of Forest (second from left) was recently crowned 2009 Homecoming Queen at East Central Community College in Decatur by College President Dr. Phil A. Sutphin (left). Serving as the queen's escort was Steve Edwards Jr. (third from left) of Newton. Presenting flowers was 2008 Homecoming Queen Emily Thrash of Sebastopol. The queen and her court were presented Saturday, October 3, 2009, during halftime of the ECCC vs. Northeast Mississippi Community College football game.

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WEEK OF 12-14-09

ECCC Top 10 Beauties

SUBMITTED PHOTO

These young ladies were recently named Top 10 Beauties at East Central Community College in Decatur. Pictured are (from left) Savanna Smith of Decatur, Adrienne McDill of Newton, Sarah Breland of Philadelphia, Anna Fulton of Louisville, Paige Richardson (most beautiful), Morgan Bailey and Hannah Lee, all of Philadelphia; Kimberly Blackwell of Louisville, Meredith McKee of Philadelphia and Chelsea Leigh Jones of Enterprise. The beauties were selected during the College's annual pageant held Monday, October 12, in Huff Auditorium.

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WEEK OF 12-14-09

ECCC Small Engine Repair Class Receives Certificates

An East Central Community College Small Engine Repair class, ideal for learning the theory of operation, carboration, ignition systems, and internal engine components, was recently completed at the Productivity Enhancement Lab located in the Philadelphia/Neshoba County Career-Technical Center. Participants receiving certificates of completion, seated from left, are Linda Cutrer and Torri Williams, both of Philadelphia; and standing from left, are Steward Sandford of Conehatta, John Cutrer of Philadelphia, Justin Scarbrough of Meridian, and Gary Sanford served as instructor. For more information on this class and others being offered, contact Chris Clark, ECCC Workforce Development Coordinator, Phone 601-635-6245 or call toll free, 1-877-462-3222, ext. 245; Blake Warren, Advanced Skills Trainer, Phone 601-389-0832; or visit www.eccc.edu/workforce. Their email address is cclark@eccc.edu or bwarren@eccc.edu. (EC Photo)

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Ac'cents 'Rock this Town' at EC

The East Central Community College Ac'cents show choir put on quite a show at their concert December 3, presenting such hits as "Rock This Town" by Stray Cats, "Man in the Mirror" by Michael Jackson, "We Belong" by Pat Benatar, "Reeling in the Years" by Steely Dan and "September" by Earth, Wind and Fire. The group is directed by Vicki Blaylock with choreography by Ricardo Robinson. photos by Bill Graham

Richie Ferguson and Jesse Harrison

Brandon Hughes and Monica Vincent

Laura Gunn, Brandon Boulton, and Tiffany Spence

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WEEK OF 12-21-09

ECCC 'Historic' Practical Nursing Graduates... Above are the first graduates of East Central Community College's Dual Enrollment Practical Nursing Program, who were recognized during a pinning ceremony held Dec. 15, 2009, in the Vickers Fine Arts Center on the Decatur campus. Students completed the four-semester program while also attending their respective high schools. Most of the funding is provided by a grant from the State Board for Community and Junior Colleges. Graduates and their respective high schools include (from left) Ashton Acord, Newton County; Brittany Brown, Newton County Academy; Amanda Graham, Newton County; Fallon Matter, Neshoba Central; Sha'Nequa Pinkston, Union; and Audriann Thomas, Newton County. Thomas was also selected "Practical Nursing Student of the Year." Instructors are Shevondra Clayton, Theresa Cole, Alicia Gatlin, Brenda Kirby and Melanie Pinter. (EC Photo)

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WEEK OF 12-28-09

Surgery tech grads

ECCC Surgical Technology Graduates

These students completed East Central Community College's Surgical Technology Program and were presented pins at the annual ceremony held Dec. 17, 2009, in the Vickers Fine Arts Center. Graduates and their respective hometowns include (first row, from left) Brooke Barrett, Sebastopol; Chambre' Bolton, Meridian; Debra Clemons, Philadelphia; Courtney Cravens and Jermaine Glass, both of Louisville; and Kayetta Grace, DeKalb; (second row, from left) Raven Hardy, Newton; Melissa Kleinschmidt and Magan Lancaster, both of Union; Tony Lewis, Lawrence; Tina McMullan, Decatur; and Kimberly Wareing, Forest; and (back row, from left) Cristen Nash, Carthage; Veronica Newell, Meridian; Kandace Smith, Philadelphia; Mecklin Soules, Heidelberg; Takelia Stephens, Meridian; Holly Tanner, Ethel; and Victoria Moore, Newton. Tanner was also selected "Surgical Technology Student of the Year." LeAnn Shirley and Kristie Pilgrim are program instructors. (EC Photo)

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WEEK OF 12-28-09

East Central names Warrior Corps members

SPECIAL TO THE TIMES

Eighty-one students are members of the 2009-10 Warrior Corps at East Central Community College, announced Student Services staff members Lanette Hanna and Romonica Evans, who serve as advisers. The Warrior Corps is a special group of students selected to assist the College in recruiting and provide assistance for various events and activities on the Decatur campus.

Students in the prestigious organization and their respective counties include the following: Warrior Corps members from Scott County include Reshetta Benton, Michael Ann Durham, Sami Elkins, Marissa Gordy, Jennifer Moore, Lindsey Bishop, Kimberly Patterson and Rochelsey Thomas.

Benton, a sophomore pre-nursing major, is a member of the Gospel Choir and Diamond Darlings. She is a graduate of Forest High School, where she served as student body president and received the citizenship award. She was also an honor student and received Student of the Month honors. Her parents are Jerome Benton Sr. and Patricia C. Benton of Forest.

Durham, a freshman pre-medicine major, is a member of Sigma Sigma Mu Tau. She was valedictorian at Scott Central High School and received Highest Honors Award in Chemistry II. Her parents are Mike and Ann Durham of Forest.

Elkins, a freshman pre-nursing major, is a member of the Baptist Student Union, Lady Warrior tennis team and Centralettes, the dance line for the Wall O' Sound Marching Band. She is a graduate of Forest High School, where she was named to the Hall of Fame and selected Most Intelligent. She was also a member of the Beta Club, Student Council and National Honor Society. Her parents are Howard and Sandy Elkins of Forest.

Gordy, a freshman pre-nursing major, is a member of the ECCC Players and participated in the recent dinner theater production of "Mash." She is an honor graduate of East Rankin Academy, where she was Mu Alpha Theta treasurer and member of the ACT Team. Her parents are Wayne and Rachel Gordy of Forest.

Moore, a freshman elementary education major, is a member of the Wall O' Sound Marching Band and Baptist Student Union.

She is a highest honors graduate of Forest High School, where she was named to the Hall of Fame and served as Homecoming Queen. Her parents are Shirley and Buddy Moore of Forest.

Bishop, a freshman liberal arts major, is a member of the ECCC Players, Baptist Student Union and Centralettes, the dance line for the Wall O' Sound Marching Band. She recently participated in the fall dinner theater presentation of "Mash." She is a graduate of Sebastopol High School and was selected Miss SHS, homecoming queen and senior class favorite. She was voted Most Likely to Succeed and received the Citizenship Award. Her parents are Matt and Jill Bishop of Sebastopol.

Patterson, a freshman pre-nursing major, is a member of Sigma Sigma Mu Tau. She is an honor graduate of Morton High School and member of the National Technical Honor Society. Her parents are Tim and Rhonda Patterson of Morton.

Thomas, a sophomore pre-nursing major, is a member of Phi Theta Kappa and Sigma Sigma Mu Tau. She was salutatorian at Forest High School, where she served as student body president and was president of the National Honor Society. She was also a Beta Club member and mentor for Mentoring Magic. Her parents are Ledora and Sammy Benton and Johnny Thomas.

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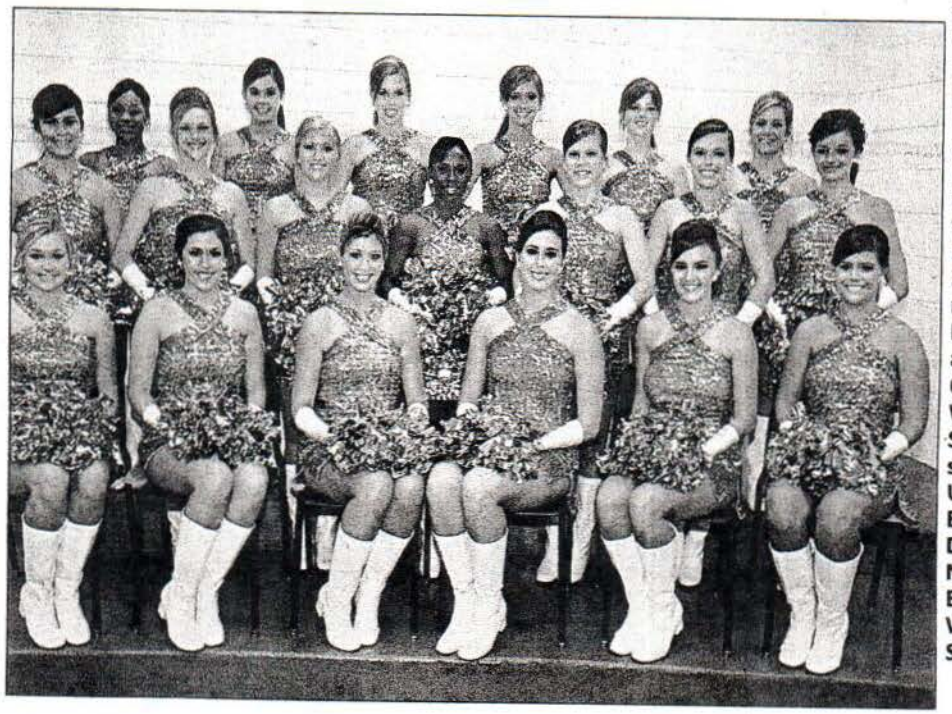
WEEK OF 12-28-09

ECCC CENTRALETTES



SUBMITTED PHOTO

The members of the 2009 Centralettes, the danceline for the Wall O' Sound Marching Band, at East Central Community College in Decatur. Pictured are (front row, from left) Paige Richardson and Sarah Breland, both of Neshoba Central; Jordan Harrell, East Rankin Academy; Kim Blackwell and Lauren Luke, both of Nanih Waiya; and Bailey Brown, East Rankin Academy; (second row, from left) Rachel Ramirez, Forest; Jaqlene Robinson, Noxapater; Savanna Smith, Newton County; Dentra Darden, Nanih Waiya; Hannah Watkins, Sebastopol; Allison Lowery, Winston Academy; and Jamie Vance, Union; and (third row, from left) Emily Hathorn, Louisville; Ariel Doggett, Edinburg; Erin Hall, Neshoba Central; Samantha Elkins, Forest; Anna Fulton, Nanih Waiya; and Lindsey Bishop, Sebastopol.

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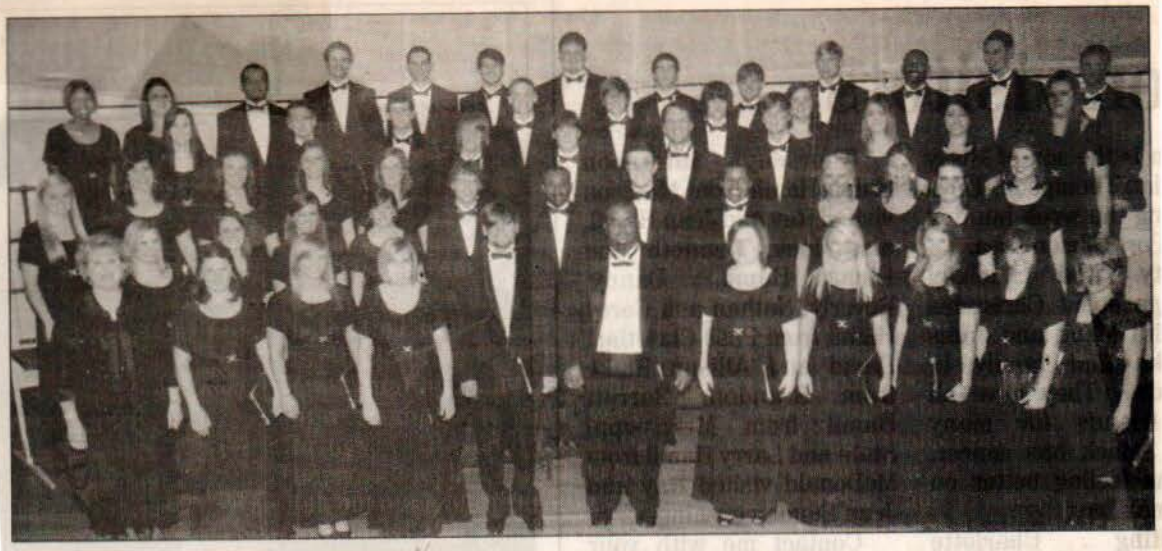
WEEK OF 12-28-09



ECCC Concert Choir Presents Fall Concert...East Central Community College's Concert Choir recently presented their fall concert in the Vickers Fine Arts Center on the Decatur campus. The talented singers performed various Christmas selections for this year's performance. Pictured are (first row, from left) music instructor Vicki Blaylock, director; Anna Powell, Philadelphia; Polly Vaughn, Courtney Lanier and Lane Fulton, all of Decatur; James Latiker, Carthage; Jeri Lynn Crosby, Forest; Ashley Amis, Decatur; Elise Gibbs, Newton; and Celia Boggan, Decatur; and music instructor Natalie Emmons, accompanist; (second row, from left) Kristen Everett and Brittany Harrison, both of Forest; Monica Vincent, Decatur; Audrey Cannon, Brandon; Corbin Jenkins, Carthage; Ronnie White, Forest; Brandon Hughes, Union; Brandon Boulton, Decatur; Jessy Harrison, Little Rock; and Stacy Henderson, Lorena; (third row, from left) Lacey Gilmore, Sebastopol; Tiffany Spence and Ayla Smith, both of Decatur; Casey Rowzee and Emily Pace, both of Newton; Lance Goodin, Louisville; Brian Felton, Chunky; Drew Harrison, Little Rock; Drew Johnston, Carthage; and Tiffany Hennington and Ashley Dumas, both of Decatur; (fourth row, from left) Laura Gunn, Forest; Colton Amis, Decatur; Jordan Smith, Union; Patrick Ezell, Decatur; Jared Mullins, Tupelo; Hank Benson, Philadelphia; Heather Hogue, Little Rock; Jessica Cherry, Carthage; Courtney Gammill, Lake; and Melody Mann, Newton; and (fifth row, from left) Britney Jefferson, Batesville; Sherry Farmer, Hickory; J'markus Dubose, Union; Cole Harris, Decatur; D.J. Townsend, Carthage; Jordan Gunn, Forest; Tyler Comans, Sebastopol; Jordan Vance, Natchez; Cody Strait, Decatur; Richard Ferguson and Jackie Leggette, both of Meridian; Cameron Weaver, Decatur; and Jonathan Crabtree, Vicksburg. (EC Photo)

APPEARED IN:

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WEEK OF 12-28-09

ECCC Gospel Choir Musicians...Musicians for East Central Community College's Gospel Choir performance held recently included (from left) Eddie Herring of Montrose, bass; Eric Goodman of Decatur, drums; Jermaine Jones of Newton, keyboard; and Billy Campbell of Montrose, guitar. The Gospel Choir held its fall concert Nov. 11 in the Vickers Fine Arts Center on the Decatur campus. The Rev. Jason Cole of Mt. Mariah Church in Newton was guest speaker. Brenda K. Johnson of Lawrence serves as Gospel Choir sponsor. (EC Photo)

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WEEK OF 12-28-09

ECCC provides canned goods for Love's Kitchen

SUBMITTED PHOTO

Members of East Central Community College's Theta Xi Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa collected canned goods for Love's Kitchen in Meridian as one of their community service projects. Club members and advisers are shown with the various items prior to delivery. From left are Jordan Gunn of Forest, advisers Patrick Stokley, Curt Skipper and Kate Covich; Kimberly Blackwell of Louisville and Abby McMillan of Newton. Phi Theta Kappa is the international honor society for two-year colleges.

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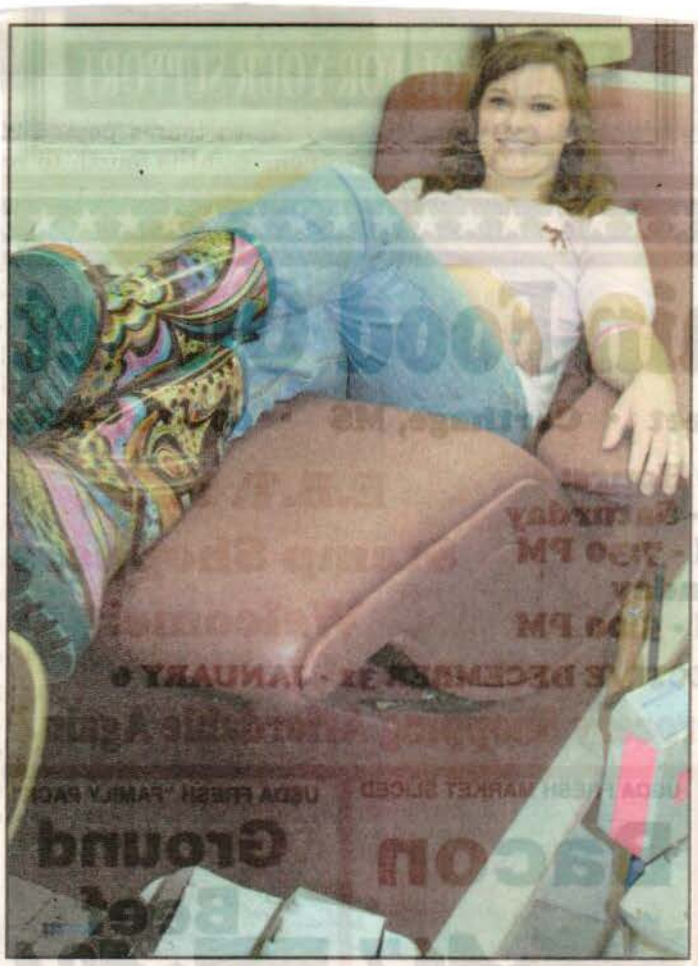

ECCC student gives gift of life

Marissa Gordy, of Hillsboro, was among participants in a recent blood drive conducted by United Blood Services on the East Central Community College campus in Decatur. Gordy is a freshman pre-nursing major. The one-day effort netted 103 pints of blood.

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WEEK OF 12·28-09

Helping others

ECCC Student Leaders Provide Gifts for Needy Family

Student Body Association officers at East Central Community College in Decatur are shown with gifts collected for a needy family in Newton County. The College leaders said they participated in the community project "to demonstrate the true meaning of Christmas." Seated from left are Kimberly Blackwell of Nanih Waiya, sophomore vice president; Anna Alexander, a home-school student from Little Rock, freshman secretary; Kerri Cook of Carthage, SBA vice president; Lacey Gilmore of Newton County, sophomore secretary; and Abby McMillan of Newton County Academy, sophomore treasurer; and (standing from left) Edgar Alvarez of Forest, SBA president; Alejandro Chavez of New Albany, freshman vice president; Kyle Killens of Newton County, SBA treasurer; Ben Stewart of Grenada, freshman treasurer; Cody Walters of Forest SBA secretary; and Christian Ortega of Forest, freshman president. Also participating in the project but not pictured is Hannah Lee of Leake Academy, sophomore president. Marcie Pinson, Director of Housing and Student Activities, serves as sponsor.

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WEEK OF 12-28-09

Sends cards to soldiers

ECCC Childcare Students, Staff Send Cards to Soldiers

These students and staff members at the East Central Community College childcare facility recently mailed candy and homemade Christmas cards to soldiers in Iraq and Afghanistan. The gift boxes were sent to Jemeris Payton, son of ECCC Early Childhood Education Director Debra Payton, who is stationed in Iraq and Dwayne Jackson, father of preschool student Lyric Jackson, who is stationed in Afghanistan. The children received e-mail photos of the soldiers after they received the cards and candy. Pictured are (front row, from left) Alexis Windham, Payton Pinter, Layla Love, Maurice Sanders, Natalie Felton, Rebecca Blackburn, Ryann Gorgas, Jesse Smith, Bella Grace Jones and Macy Walker; (second row, from left) Kristina Crabtree, Chamblee Ezelle, Monique McCallum, Samantha Boykin, Kristen Alexander, Benjamin Bozeman, Lyric Jackson, Kemari Brown and Tanner Strebeck; and (back row, from left) Christa Robinson, Mary Lee Gregory, Chafony Evans, Debra Payton, Kathy George, Michelle Moss, Parker Pinter, Whitney Nash, Madison Moore, Victoria York and Micah Watson. (EC Photo)

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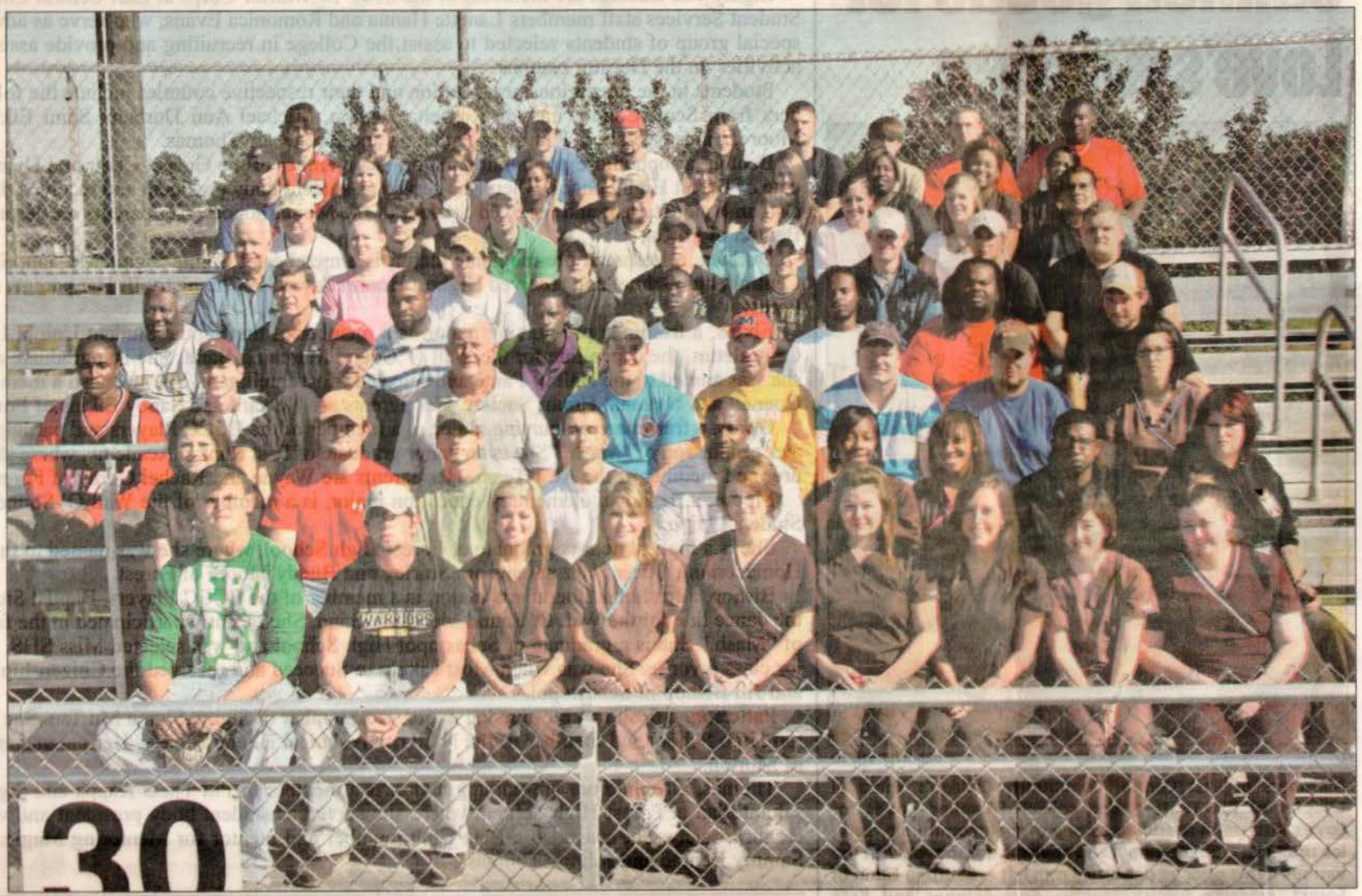
ECCC honors SkillsUSA members

SUBMITTED PHOTO



These students are members of SkillsUSA at East Central Community College in Decatur. Members and their respective hometowns include (front row, from left) Jesse Dickerson, Edinburg; Jesse Holloway, Decatur; Brittany Cooper, Sebastopol; Jamey Taylor, Lake; Nancy Barnett, Philadelphia; Annabeth Papalambros, Louisville; Erica Dowell, Carthage; Danielle Shoemaker, Decatur; and Crystal Tucker, Meridian; (second row, from left) Carrie Stokes, Philadelphia; Payton Pierce, Madden; Brandon Caldwell, Carthage; Jamie Fortenberry, Forest; Ronald Spears, Louisville; Paige Worthy, Noxapater; Maree Kidd, Newton; Cory Bender, Raleigh; and Felicia Sowell, Newton; (third row, from left) Carnell Gray, Quitman; Cody Mason, Union; Craig Lovell, Newton; Jesse Savell, Decatur; Max Harvey, Morton; Johnny Hatcher, Nanih Waiya; Will Land, Philadelphia; Brandon Stubblefield, Philadelphia; and Robin Crapps, Union; (fourth row, from left) Frank Harris, Lisman, Ala.; Charles Johnson, Louisville; Antonio Nash, Carthage; Ronald Hearan, Louisville; Avery Morgan, Witchita, Kan.; Germaine Grace, Meridian; and Patrick Griffin, Union; (fifth row, from left) Richard Mosby, Decatur; Lindsay Bozeman, Union; Johnathon Breedlove, Philadelphia; Tim Patterson, Louisville; Sydney Tucker, Shelby Shelley and Adam McLemore, all of Sebastopol; Hugh Vanlandingham, Noxapater; and Jeremy Stewart, Louisville; (sixth row, from left) Alex Hamilton, Philadelphia; Logan Hilliard, Louisville; Cory Fitzgerald, Little Rock; Eddie Fondren, Union; Colton Fulton, Philadelphia; Amber Wall, Pelahatchie; Hannah Watkins, Union; and Jason Thomas, Philadephia; (seventh row, from left) Trent Hitt, Philadelphia; Kristie Robinson, Forest; Amanda Partridge, Philadelphia; Candace Patrick, Forest; Raquel Simmons, Philadelphia; Megan Carlisle, Gilbertown, Ala.; Amy Johnson, DeKalb; Chania Mickiel, Forest; Ashley Arrington, Newton; and Camala Palmer, Meridian; and (eighth row, from left) Josh Taylor, Sebastopol; Jeremy Rogers, Rose Hill; Darren Crader, Hickory; Joel Hardy, Forest; Kenny Drury, Noxapater; Kassie Call, Charles Hamilton, Dustin Davis and Kurt Tolbert, all of Philadelphia; and Eric Boone, Forest. The purpose of SkillsUSA is to foster a wholesome understanding of the functions of labor/management organizations and recognition of their mutual interdependence, and to create among students, faculty members, patrons of the school and persons in industry a sincere interest in and esteem for trade, industrial, technical and health occupations education. The sponsors are Lynn Selman and Sheri Cliburn.

WEEK OF 2-2-09

ECCC PHOTO

ECCC WOMEN'S TENNIS TEAM

Ready to begin the 2009 season are the above members of the East Central Community College women's tennis team. From left are Anna Powell of Philadelphia, Elise Gibbs of Newton, Kylie Rigdon of Union, Abby McMillan of Newton and *Rachel Ramirez of Forest*. Not pictured is Kadie Hailey of Louisville. Dianne O'Neill serves as coach. The Lady Warriors begin competition by challenging Northeast Mississippi Community College at 1 p.m. Friday, Feb. 27 on the Decatur campus.

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2-3-09

ECCC PHOTO

ECCC MEN'S TENNIS TEAM

Members of East Central Community College's men's team have been announced for the 2009 campaign. From left are Darius Walker of Hickory, Lurenzo Jones of Newton, Nathan Calvert of Louisville, *Matt Wade of Forest*, and Jason Hancock and Colton Amis, both of Decatur. Not pictured are *Hunter Huff of Forest* and Devarus "Scooter" Walker of Hickory. The Warriors begin season action by battling Northeast Mississippi Community College at 1 p.m. Friday, Feb. 27 on the Decatur campus. Dianne O'Neill serves as coach.

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WEEK OF 2-16-09

Walker captures tennis 'Showdown' at ECCC

Devarus "Scooter" Walker captured top honors in the Men's Tennis Showdown held Saturday, Feb. 14 on the East Central Community College courts in Decatur. Walker defeated Colton Amis 7-6, 7-4 to win the first-time competition.

Jason Hancock won the "A" Division and Matt Wade finished runner-up. Chris Reed placed third.

Other division finalists include Joseph Cieglo, Allen Amis, Nathan Calvert, Jordan Vance, Hunter Huff and Dee Walker.

Women's "Showdown" competition is scheduled Saturday, Feb. 21.

Entry fee is $10 per person.

For more information contact ECCC tennis coach Dianne O'Neill, 601-862-2130. Her e-mail address is killerbdi@yahoo.com.

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WEEK OF _____

ECCC tennis squads drop decisions

East Central Community College's tennis squads wrapped up competition prior to spring break by falling to Jones County Junior College March 12 on the Decatur campus.

The Warriors fell 6-3 to the Bobcats and dropped to 2-1 on the season, while the EC women were outscored 8-1 by the Lady Bobcats and remain winless in three matches.

ECCC tennis squads returned to action Monday, March 23 by hosting Itawamba Community College in Forest. The Warriors and Lady Warriors have a rematch with JCJC Wednesday, March 25.

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WEEK OF 4/16/09

Huff Displays Winning Form!

Hunter Huff of Forest was among East Central Community College tennis players who posted wins in singles competition against Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College April 7 on the Decatur campus. Huff defeated Jordan Craft 6-1, 6-3 to win the match. Huff, a transfer from Mississippi College, is a product of East Rankin Academy. The Warriors fell 7-2 to the visitors from Perkinston. (EC Photo)

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WEEK OF 4/16/09

Ramirez Hustles for Victory

East Central Community College tennis player Rachel Ramirez of Forest hustles to make a return during her singles match with Charmayne Purvis of Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College April 7 on the Decatur campus. Ramirez defeated her opponent 6-3, 7-5. The Lady Warriors were clipped 5-4 by the visitors from Perkinston. (EC Photo)

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Lady Warriors prepare for tournament

SPECIAL TO THE TIMES

DECATUR — Regular season competition ended on a disappointing note for the playoff-bound East Central Community College fast-pitch softball team, as the Lady Diamond Warriors were swept by Pearl River Community College in an MACJC South Division doubleheader Monday on the Poplarville campus.

East Central fell 8-0 in the opener and lost 4-2 in the second contest to finish the regular season at 19-21 overall and 12-12 in league play under sixth-year head coach Scott Hill and first-year assistant Kristin Chaney.

The Lady Diamond Warriors enter this weekend's MACJC State Softball Tournament as the No. 4 seed from South and will take on North top-seed Northwest Mississippi Community College at 2 p.m. Friday in first-round action of the two-day event, being hosted by Copiah-Lincoln Community College in Wesson.

Semi-finals are scheduled at noon and 2 p.m. Saturday followed by the championship game at 4 p.m.

In addition to East Central and Northwest, other teams participating in the single-elimination tournament are Co-Lin, Pearl River, Itawamba, Gulf Coast and East Mississippi. Northeast and Holmes will battle for the final playoff spot.

East Central managed just two hits in the first loss to Pearl River — singles by Allison Phillips of Leake Academy and Brittany Cochran, a product of Newton County High School.

Amber Smith of Union took the loss on the mound, allowing eight earned runs on 11 hits through five-and two-thirds innings.

In the second game, Phillips led the offense with three singles.

Leake Academy product Hannah Lee of Philadelphia and Amy Sharp of Neshoba Central had doubles each, and Cochran, Hailey Chisolm of Neshoba Central and Emily Thrash of Sebastopol were credited with singles each. Thrash and Leah Dennis of Neshoba Central scored EC's runs.

Codee Russell of Leake Academy went the distance on the mound and took the loss. She allowed three earned runs on eight hits. She also fanned one batter and walked two.

The ECCC Lady Warriors fast-pitch softball team is under the leadership of Coach Scott Hill, a native of Forest.

ECCC PHOTO

East Central Community College recognized sophomore tennis players during a ceremony held prior to the home finale with Copiah-Lincoln Community College April 8 on the Decatur campus. Honorees include (from left) Hunter Huff and Matt Wade, both of Forest; Scooter Walker of Hickory and Kylie Rigdon of Union. Not pictured is Lurenzo Jones of Newton. Dianne O'Neill serves as coach.

ECCC Warrior Football Golf Tournament planned Saturday

DECATUR — There's still time to sign up for the 2009 East Central Community College Warrior Football Golf Tournament, announced Steve Cheatham, head football coach. This year's event is scheduled Saturday, April 25, at Newton Country Club.

A shotgun start at 8:30 a.m. begins the three-person scramble, which provides funding for the College's football program.

Entry fee is $90 per team and includes lunch and beverages. Door prizes will also be awarded.

For information call Coach Brian Anderson, 601-635-6244 (office), 601-562-0356 (cell), or Coach Kyle Watson, 601-635-6348 (office), 601-934-2929.

APPEARED IN:
CARTHAGINIAN ____
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WEEK OF June 1, 2009

EC Women Tennis Award Winners

Tennis honors were presented to the Lady Warriors at East Central Community College's annual Spring Sports Awards Banquet. Seated from left are Abby McMillan of Newton County Academy (Most Valuable Player), Kylie Rigdon of Union (Academic Award), and Rachel Ramirez of Forest (Most Improved). Standing are Anna Powell of Philadelphia (Team Captain Award; and Elise Gibbs of Newton County (Lady Warrior Award).

EC photo

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WEEK OF June 22, 2009

Warrior Tennis Award Winners

Warrior tennis players who received honors at East Central Community College's annual Spring Sports Awards Banquet held on the Decatur campus include (from left) Colton Amis, of Newton County High School (Warrior Award), Matt Wade of Forest (academic and team captain awards), and Jason Hancock of Newton County (Most Valuable Player. Not pictured is East Rankin Academy product Hunter Huff of Forest (Most improved). ECCC President Dr. Phil A. Sutphin and tennis coaches Dianne O'Neill and Kyle Watson presented awards.

EC photo

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